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SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - NO. 591

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS (Last half of December)

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted.)

SUMMARY

Snow cover has lessened during this period in the eastern part of the country, but in western United States snow has generally increased in depth and extends further southward. Temperatures have been sufficiently low so that bees have been confined to their hives throughout most of the northern portion of the country, and stores have frequently been reduced because of the exceptionally cold weather earlier in the month. Heavy losses are already anticipated by many beekeepers. In Southern California beekeepers are concerned over lack of rainfall.

Stocks of honey continue to decrease rapidly throughout the entire country. Beekeepers report inquiry for many carlots of honey which they cannot fill, and they are in fact turning down orders for many smaller lots also. Southern package bee and queen producers report a record volume of orders for this early in the season. Beekeeping leaders throughout the country are advising commercial beekeepers to place orders for both package and queens as early as possible in the anticipation that southern supplies may be inadequate next spring. Although many reports are received indicating that beekeepers are discouraged over the uncertainty of obtaining sufficient supplies for the coming season, other reports suggest that many beekeepers are planning to expand their colonies so far as equipment, gas and tire allotments, and the supply of help permits.

Many beekeepers who considered their initial gasoline allotments on their Certificates of War necessity inadequate are now applying for adjustment of mileage and of gasoline gallonage through the County Farm Transportation Committees of their County USD. War Boards. It is understood that the intent of the Office of Defense Transportation is to maintain essential agricultural transportation as an integral part of the production and marketing of necessary foodstuffs, and the needs of beekeepers are being given careful consideration by their county committees. Because of the gasoline shortage, however, all beekeepers cannot expect to receive as much gas as they used last season.

Conservation Order 11-31 of the War Production Board, as amended December 9, 1942 permits a packing quota of 100 percent of the 1942 pack of 60-lb. tins. The schedule specifically indicates that these cans are re-usable, and it is expected that they will be used as many times as their condition will permit. Already many sales reported by beekeepers, and purchases reported by packers, are on the basis of "cans returned or exchanged". Tin containers of a size smaller than the 60-lb. cans will not be available during the coming season for packing honey for civilian use.

"Forms for Computing Ceiling Prices for Packers of Extracted Honey and for Sellers of Bulk Honey" - (Forms 1-A, 1-B, 1-C, Code No. 653-A) - are now available from the Office of Price Administration, Washington, D. C.; as are also copies of MPR 255 Amendments 1 and 2, "Permitted Increase for Wholesalers of Certain Foods (Including Extracted Honey)", issued December 12, 1942; and of MPR 256, "Permitted Increases for Retailers of Certain Foods (Including Extracted Honey)", issued December 12, 1942.

The final review of the season giving the number of colonies of bees and the production of honey for 1942 as estimated by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, indicates a total production of 180 million pounds, compared with a revised production report for 1941 of 226 million pounds. Complete details by States are being mailed. The second estimate of the 1942 honey crop of Canada, issued December 22, 1942, by the Canadian Dominion Bureau of Statistics, shows a total production of 23 million pounds, or 16 percent below the 1941 crop of 27 million pounds.

CALIFORNIA POINTS:

Southern California. All portions of Southern California still remain unusually dry excepting along the coast where some rain has fallen, although more is needed to benefit vegetation. Nights have generally been cool, but days have been warm and sunny which has resulted in rather heavy consumption of store where colonies have any surplus. In the mountain and non-irrigated sections

nothing is available for bees to work on but in the orchard areas they have been able to obtain a little nectar and some pollen from mustard used as a cover crop from eucalyptus. In Orange County some scale hives have shown a little gain during the last two weeks, and colonies are carrying brood. Elsewhere little brood activity reported, and many colonies are very weak. Some bees are being moved to the avocado groves in San Diego County, where it is expected considerable nectar can be obtained during the winter months. Demand continues good for honey but offerings are very limited and many beekeepers are reluctant to sell their light stocks at present price levels. Sales by beekeepers reported, extracted Extra Light Amber to White Orange \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds, delivered Southern California points. The beeswax market was reported steady at 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. delivered Los Angeles.

Imperial Valley. The fall and winter to date have been somewhat warmer than usual, with the result that bees have been quite active and have used large quantities of stores. There has been no recent rain or frost. Very little broodrearing lately, but most colonies have a fairly good supply of honey and pollen. In some places bees are gathering some pollen from mustard and other flowering plants.

Central California. Nights have been cool, with frosts in the morning but the days have been warm enough so that bees could fly a portion of the time. More rain is needed for growth of sage and buckwheat plants. Most colonies have sufficient stores and the bees are wintering well, but in nearly all sections numerous colonies are light in stores and weak in bees. In most sections there is almost nothing for bees to work on, but in some of the orchard sections a little pollen is available from mustard and mistletoe, and in Monterey County bay trees and greasewood are blooming. Buds are abundant on manzanitas in the hills. There is some movement of bees to the eucalyptus districts, and also to the almond districts, where beekeepers are receiving 75¢ per colony for pollination activity. Orange prospects appear better here than further South in the State. Sales by beekeepers reported, in ton lots or more, delivered Bay Cities per lb. Light Amber to Extra White, Mixed Flowers, including Orange, Lima Bean, Sage, Clover, Blue Curl mostly 12¢, few Sage 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Light Amber Alfalfa 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, Dark Amber Mixed Flowers 10¢; Mixed capping molter honey 10¢; delivered interior valley points - White Clover and White Orange 12¢; Amber Mixed Flowers 10¢. Beeswax 41-42¢ per lb. delivered Bay Cities.

Northern California. In most sections of Northern California rainfall and fog have been ample to give plants a good start. However, in the Sacramento Valley more rainfall would help to provide more ideal growing conditions. Bees have been fairly inactive although they have had plenty of good flying weather. Most colonies appear in fairly good condition although some are weak and in some cases feeding will soon have to be resorted to. There has been some movement of bees into the orchard sections. While there is nothing but a few ornamental plants for bees to work on now, annual plants have obtained better than normal growth. Filaree and mustard are well advanced and they may bloom earlier than normal next spring. Eucalyptus trees have an abundance of flower buds. Sales by beekeepers in ton lots or more per lb. delivered Bay Cities - Light Amber to Extra Light Amber White Thistle 12¢; delivered interior valley points White Thistle 12¢; Light Amber to Extra Light Amber Thistle 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ -12¢; White Clover 12¢

PACIFIC NORTHWEST:-

West of Cascades. In the Willamette Valley of Oregon the weather has been mild, with heavy rains since the first of November. Bees have had a few flights recently and seem to be wintering fairly well. In Western Washington bees are wintering well, with stores holding up well. Although occasional brief flights are possible, in general the weather has been too cool for this activity. Most beekeepers are completely sold out of honey though a few are holding back their stocks until they are more certain of their maximum selling prices under current regulations. Dealers reported paying beekeepers 41-41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ for best beeswax delivered Portland. Sweetclover-Alfalfa and Mixed Flowers both sold lightly at 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. delivered Portland.

East of Cascades. The weather continues around the freezing point, with considerable fog, but it has not recently been warm enough for bees to fly. Most colonies are in good condition, and declines in scale hive weights have been reported light, indicating light consumption of stores. The abundance of snow in most areas indicates that next spring's nectar-bearing plants will have sufficient moisture and that supplies of water for irrigation should be ample. Stocks of honey are light, and relatively few beekeepers have much honey remaining unsold.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION:-

Over most of the Intermountain Region the weather was considerably milder than during the forepart of December. Bees are wintering well and in most areas have been able to make short flights on a number of days. In most sections there is little snow on the ground at this time, although moisture conditions are favorable. The exception to this is in the western mountainous portion of Colorado where the ground is still quite dry and the snow cover somewhat below normal. Honey in the hands of beekeepers appears to be quite closely cleaned up, with inquiry and demand, especially for large lots, running considerably ahead of the

available supply. Nearly all offers by buyers, and sales by producers, are being reported at ceiling levels. Sales per lb., f.o.b., extracted, Extra Light Amber to Extra White Sweetclover-Alfalfa case lots to carlots mostly around 12¢, 1 carlot reported at 11¢; occasional ton lot 10¢; single 60s 11-12½¢; small pails Extra Light Amber to White 12-15¢; 1-lb. jars few sales 18¢; bulk comb 10-lb. pails 13¢ per lb. Beeswax 41½-42¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Details by States follow:

Colorado. In nearly all sections of the State weather was relatively mild during the latter half of December, with occasional days warm enough for bees to make short flights. Nearly all beekeepers report that colonies are wintering well. In the eastern part of the State moisture conditions are favorable and plants appear good for next season. On the other hand, in the mountain regions of the western portion of the State the ground is still quite dry and snowfall has been somewhat below normal.

Wyoming. Weather over most of this State has been mild enough to allow for short mid-day flights on a number of days, but has been cool enough to keep bees quiet most of the time. Colonies appear in good condition with moisture conditions favorable for next season. Honey is quite closely cleaned up, with supplies insufficient to take care of local demand in most sections of the State.

Montana. While temperatures hold below freezing during most of this period, the weather was considerably milder than during the first half of December and bees were able to make a few short flights. Although the ground is bare in some sections of the State, moisture conditions are considered generally favorable. Apparently very little honey remains in the hands of beekeepers in Montana.

Idaho. Temperatures have been normal or above normal during most of this period. In the valley sections there is little or no snow on the ground. Precipitation has been heavier than normal, mostly in the form of rain, and soil conditions for next year's crop are improving. Demand and inquiry continue fairly active, especially for large lots of honey, with practically all offers at ceiling prices. However, available supplies are very light.

Utah. While cold weather has kept bees confined during most of this period, no unusually low temperatures were reported. So far colonies are wintering fairly well. While the ground is bare in most of the valleys there is a fair amount of snow in the mountains.

Nevada. Colonies appear to be in good condition on the whole, although some beekeepers extracted a little too closely for safety. The weather has been very favorable, with rain in the lower levels and snow in the mountains.

ARIZONA: -

Nearly all sections of the State continue abnormally dry. Mild weather is causing bees to consume stores somewhat faster than normal, but in the irrigated valleys food reserves are still ample for some time. Bees are wintering well except in the eastern portion of the State where an unusually long drought period has prevailed. Sales f.o.b. per lb. Light Amber to Extra Light Amber Alfalfa and Alfalfa-Mesquite, ton lots to 60s 12¢; Light Amber Alfalfa, small pails and jars 12¢. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

SOUTHWESTERN STATES: -

Southcentral and Southwestern Texas. Most of this section continues unusually dry and considerable rain will be needed if crop conditions for next season are to be favorable. Bees are wintering fairly well. Although some colonies are light in stores considerable feeding may be necessary before spring.

Southeast Texas. Weather continues warm enough for bees to fly almost daily, but since there is nothing left for them to work on colonies are almost dormant. Colonies in yards with no Aster range have required considerable feeding. Light showers have temporarily relieved the drought situation, but more rain is needed to bring on mint and other early ground flowers. Subsoil moisture is ample for nectar-producing shrubs and trees. Some bee and queen producers report heavier orders for package bees for this early date than for many years.

New Mexico. In the Mesilla Valley colonies are in fair condition, but clusters are reported smaller than usual. In general it has been a little too war for best wintering. There has been some rain in the valleys and snow in the mountains during the last half of December. Pepper grass reported blooming in sheltered sections of the Valley. In the northern part of the State bees are entering the winter with ample stores and moisture conditions are good. Some concern is felt over the outlook for 1943 unless there is a marked decrease in grasshopper infestation. Sales bulk comb Mixed Flowers in small pails at 14.3-14.8¢ per lb. Beeswax, 41½¢ per lb. delivered Denver.

Oklahoma. Colonies are now mostly prepared for winter and are reported in fair condition. Some colonies had to be fed for winter while others have gone into winter with insufficient stores. Honey plants are reported in good condition with ample soil moisture.

Arkansas. Weather was a little too cool for extended bee flights during the latter half of December. Sales f.o.b. per lb. Mixed Flowers single 60s 9¢, 1-lb. glass jars 17½¢.

PLAINS AREA: -

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. Cold weather has kept bees confined during this period. A good blanket of snow is protecting bees in most areas, although in some sections high winds have caused considerable drifting and large bare spaces in the open fields. Honey appears to be quite closely cleaned up, with many retailers unable to find enough local honey to take care of their needs. Some beekeepers are actively preparing for next spring's operations, with some now building additional supers which they feel will be necessary to take care of next year's honey flow with the reduced labor supply. In some yards stores are so light that beekeepers expect it will be necessary to feed sugar candy. Sale reported 1 car White Sweetclover at 12¢ per lb. delivered Chicago cans and cases returned.

Iowa. Cold weather and snow, with ice and sleet in some sections, has kept bees confined during this period and most colonies are now in need of a good flight. A heavy snow cover is giving considerable protection to outdoor yards, and in general it is felt that bees are wintering fairly well. There is apparently little honey in the hands of producers and very few sales were reported. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted Sweetclover, carlots and less 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢, few 12¢ with cans furnished or returned, few small pails 11-12¢. Beeswax, 40-41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash to beekeepers, 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. in trade. Comb honey \$2.90-4.30 per case.

Nebraska. In most sections of the State bees have been confined during this period, although a few beekeepers report temperatures high enough for occasional short flights. In most areas the ground is covered with snow, and since moisture has been ample remaining honey plants should be in fairly good condition for next year. Very few sales were reported and these only in small lots. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted White Sweetclover single 60s 12-13 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢, few high as 13.8¢; in small pails 15¢. Few sales No. 1 White comb \$5.00 per case.

Kansas. Beekeepers report one of the coldest and snowiest Decembers of recent record. Cold weather prevailed during the early part of this period but mild weather toward the end melted much of the ice and snow that had been on the ground since early December, and permitted short flights. Moisture has been ample and both bees and honey plants are in good condition.

Missouri. Bees have been confined by cold weather and snow most of this period, although toward the end of the month temperatures moderated considerably and bees were able to fly. So far colonies appear to be wintering well. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted Spanish Needle-Heartsease in small pails and glass jars 13¢; bulk comb Clover blend 15¢ per lb. at retail.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES:-

Michigan. The weather in most parts of Michigan has been steadily cold since early November, with many sub-zero days. There is little frost in the ground but a very good snow cover which should put clover and other honey plants in good condition for next year. Colonies which had ample stores are apparently wintering well, but many colonies are light in stores and it is felt that winter losses in some sections may be quite heavy. Supplies have been light, with very few sales reported. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted White Clover case to ton lots 12¢, few higher, small pails 15-20¢.

Wisconsin. Most of the State is covered with a good blanket of snow. There is little or no frost in the ground in most sections, so honey plants should be doing well for next season. Cold weather has kept bees confined. Those wintered outdoors appear to be doing quite well, although many hives are rather light in stores. Those being wintered in cellars are quiet. Only a few small lot sales of honey were reported. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted, White Clover single 60s 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ -12 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢, mostly 12-12 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢, small pails 13-16 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; White Clover-Basswood and Mixed Flowers small pails mostly around 15¢. Beeswax f.o.b. to beekeepers 42¢ per lb. cash and 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ in trade.

Minnesota. Continued cold with snow has kept bees confined during this period. A good ground cover of snow is protecting honey plants. In many sections consumption of stores has been heavy and food supplies are unusually light. Some beekeepers anticipate heavy winter losses. Demand continues good for honey. While a number of large lots of honey are still in the hands of producers there seems to be an inclination on the part of most of them to hold back such supplies as they now have on hand. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted Light Amber to White, single 60s to carlot mostly 12¢, or 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ cans returned with a few sales in small pails reported at the same price, 1-lb. glass jars 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb., Amber, 60s 11¢ per lb., or 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ cans returned. Comb No. 1 White Clover few sales \$3.60 per case.

Ohio. The first part of this period was intensely cold, but a good snow cover helped to protect hives and also clover and other honey plants. During the latter part of the period temperatures moderated and some rain and snow fell. Bees have not had a good flight for a month or six weeks in most sections of the State, and some beekeepers are concerned over the safety of their bees since a portion of the honey reserves contained honeydew. Demand for both honey and beeswax has been far in excess of available supplies and very few sales were reported. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted White Clover case to ton lots 12¢.

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Indiana. Temperatures during the early part of this period were below normal but toward the end of the month the weather turned somewhat warmer and rainy. A light snow cover in most sections of the State protected honey plants. In general bees appear to be wintering very well except where stores are unusually light. However, mild, clear weather which would permit good flights would be highly beneficial. Sales per lb., extracted, Light Amber Clover, case lots 12¢, small pails 16¢; White Clover comb 10-11-oz. cellophane-wrapped \$2.40-3.15 per case.

Illinois. The weather has been cold during most of the month of December. In most sections of the State the bees have been confined for the last four or five weeks although in some sections it was warm enough for a short flight of December 17. A good snow cover is protecting clover and since moisture conditions have been favorable all season clover plants should come through the winter in good shape. Demand for honey continues good, but supplies are getting abnormally low. Sales f.o.b. per lb., extracted Mixed Flowers Light Amber single 60s 11-12¢ small pails 13¢; 1-lb. jars 15¢. Beeswax 41¢ per lb. to beekeepers.

Kentucky. The early part of the period had considerable cold, stormy weather, while during the latter part of the month rainfall has been excessive. Bees have been confined during this entire period. Moisture conditions have been very favorable for a good growth of plants. Sales of beeswax reported at 41½¢ cash and 43½¢ in trade f.o.b. shipping point.

NORTHEASTERN STATES:-

New York. Temperatures were extremely low during the forepart of this month, reaching 30° or more below zero in the northern and mountainous portions of the State. In the southern and western sections of the State it warmed up toward the end of the month and bees were able to obtain one or two short flights. Clover and other honey plants were well protected by a good snow blanket. In general bees appear to be wintering fairly well although some colonies are light in stores despite fairly heavy feeding last fall. Relatively little honey remains in the hands of producers although a few fairly large lots are being held to meet local demand or because producers are reluctant to sell at this time. Very few sales were reported. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted, White Clover or Mixed Flowers 60s or more mostly 12¢, few 13½¢, small pails 15¢.

Pennsylvania. Until the close of the period temperatures were low, dropping far below zero in the higher altitudes, and to zero in many parts of the State. The ground has been covered with several inches of snow in most sections. Consumption of stores has been heavy because of the cold weather. Sales f.o.b. per lb., White extracted 12¢.

New Jersey. The early part of this period was quite cold, but it warmed up around Christmas and bees have been able to fly on a couple of occasions. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted, Sumac-Clover, small pails and glass jars 21-22¢. Comb Mixed Flowers \$4.80 per case. Beeswax, medium light 42¢ per lb. to beekeepers.

Vermont. Weather during this period was very cold, ranging to as low as 25° below zero, with almost a week of below-zero temperatures. During the latter part of the period, however, temperatures have moderated considerably. The snow cover in most sections is rather light. Bees appear to be wintering well. Demand continues active, with supplies nearly cleaned up. Sales, f.o.b., per lb., extracted Clover, small pails 15¢, 1-lb. jars 17¢.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES:-

Maryland. Considerable cold weather prevailed during the early part of the period, with several light snows. However, around the 25th it warmed up rapidly and bees were able to make a much-needed flight. In some sections quality of winter stores is not considered to be the best since bees gathered considerable honeydew last season, and any long period of confinement might be quite serious. Stocks of honey are becoming very light.

Virginia. Satisfactory wintering reported in most yards; however, snow, sleet and rain reported. Sales of cut comb reported 12-section cases \$1.80 per case. Beeswax has brought 41½¢ cash and 43½¢ in trade to beekeepers.

West Virginia. Around Christmas bees had a short flight which was badly needed. After a period of low temperatures, in some yards large number of dead bees were brought to the hive entrances and present indications are that many colonies will be weak in the spring.

SOUTHEASTERN STATES:-

Georgia. Temperatures have been generally mild and considerable rain in most sections has pretty well broken the drought of last fall, although considerable more is needed to replenish the streams, lakes and swamps. Bees went into winter with fairly good population and in most cases ample reserve stores and so far appear to be wintering well. In South Georgia maple and other early buds are beginning to swell, so some pollen should be available within a short time. Honey is quite closely cleaned up, so that while considerable inquiry was received no sales were reported.

Florida. Weather in general has been ideal for flying. In the northern part of the State bees have started consuming winter stores quite heavily. Some pollen is being gathered from miscellaneous plants. Some complaints are being received of bees being killed by poison dust. Sales, per lb., extracted, Mixed Flowers case to ton lots 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, in small pails few sales 12¢; glass jars 13¢ per lb.; Buttonwood, barrel and also some in small pails 10¢; bulk comb White Mangrove and Light Amber Palmetto 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. glass jars 16¢ per lb.

Alabama. No reports on conditions of bees or plants in this State were received. Sales of extracted Amber Ti-ti in ton lots reported at 10¢ per lb.

Louisiana. The weather in the Southern part of the State has so far been quite mild. However, temperatures have been cool enough to keep bees fairly inactive although they can fly more or less regularly. Rainfall has been somewhat below normal, but has been sufficient to take care of plant needs and plant prospects are encouraging. A little pollen is available and occasional White Clover plants show blooms. Scale colonies reported losing about a pound a week. In some bee yards queenless colonies are being robbed as fast as stronger colonies can locate them. Package bee and queen producers agree that early orders for shipments next spring have been heavier than usual. Very little honey is being sold, with small pails running 15-16¢ per lb., barrels 10¢ per lb.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the last of December. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: Arrivals: extracted 25 bbls. Puerto Rico via New York City; 125, 60s N.Y., 125, 60s Wis., 50, 60s Calif.

COMB: Practically no supplies on market. Insufficient to quote.

EXTRACTED: Demand good but owing no local supplies on hand, no sales reported.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by rail, 1 car Minn., l.c.l. 1,440 lbs. Minn. No truck receipts reported.

COMB: No supplies on market.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand moderate, market firm. Sales to bakers and other large users - CENTRALWESTERN, 5-lb. pails White Clover, supply very light 75-90¢, few \$1.00.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paid 40-42¢, few best lost 43-43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. delivered Chicago basis, for few available lots that were offered.

CLEVELAND: No receipts reported. Demand fair, market slightly weaker.

EXTRACTED: Sales by wholesalers to retailers - MIDWESTERN, White Clover 12, 1-lb. jars \$2.65-2.75.

DENVER: Receipts: extracted, approx. 66,000 lbs. Colo.; beeswax 750 lbs. Demand moderate, market firm. Most wholesalers and distributors still withholding quotations. Sales to jobbers and wholesale bakers -

EXTRACTED: COLORADO, Sweetclover-Alfalfa, White to Water White 60s \$8.50; case 12, 5-lb. glass jars \$9.40-9.50; case 24, 1-lb. glass \$4.60-4.72; 12, 8-oz. glass \$1.28.

BEESWAX: Demand moderate, market steady. Dealers offering beekeepers for domestic crude wax 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb.

DETROIT: Receipts: extracted, 83,860 lbs. Mich., 900 lbs. Ohio. Supplies moderate. Demand good, market firm.

EXTRACTED: Sales by bottlers to chain stores and jobbers - MICHIGAN, White 12, 1-lb. jars \$2.28-2.30; 5-lb. jars 75-80¢ each. Sales by large receivers and other large buyers - MICHIGAN, 60s White 15-15 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢, Dark Amber 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢. OHIO, 60s Light Amber 14 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, extracted Minn. White Mixed Clovers 34, 60-lb. cans, White Sweetclover 450, 60-lb. cans; Light Amber Mixed Clover 34, 60-lb. cans. Beeswax: 120 lbs.

EXTRACTED: Supplies moderate. Demand good, market steady. Sales to bakers, baker supply houses and conffectionarys - MINNESOTA, Light Amber to White \$8.70-8.90 per 60-lb. can. Sales to wholesale grocers - MINNESOTA, U. S. No. 1, Blended Clover 12, 5-lb. pails \$9.22-9.30; 6, 5-lb. jars \$4.61-4.65; 12, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. jars \$5.00-5.15; 24, 16-oz. jars \$4.80; 24, 6-oz. jars \$1.95. Sales to retail grocers - MINNESOTA, 12, 5-lb. pails \$9.70-9.80; 6, 5-lb. jars \$4.85-4.90; 12, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. jars \$5.30-5.45; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.40; 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.30.

BEESWAX: Supplies light. Demand good, market steady. Sales reported 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ f.o.b. Minneapolis.

PHILADELPHIA: Arrivals: by truck 6,000 lbs. origin not known.

EXTRACTED: IMPORTED, blended, 60s 16¢

BEESWAX: No offerings.

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PITTSBURGH: Arrivals by rail and truck extracted 2460 lbs. Mich., 4475 lbs. bottled Midwestern.

COMB: Receipts and supplies very light. Demand moderate, market about steady. Brokers' sales to retailers- NEW YORK, cellophane-wrapped White Clover fancy \$5.00; No. 1, \$4.50.

EXTRACTED: Demand moderate, market steady. Brokers' sales to retailers- MICHIGAN, White 12, 32-oz. jars \$4.80; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.53; bulk 60s 14¹/₂-14 3/4 per lb.

PORTLAND: Arrivals extracted via motor truck from Southern Oregon, 60-60-lb. cans Sweetclover-Alfalfa; from Idaho, 60, 60-lb. cans Sweetclover-Alfalfa. Supplies are light. Demand is active, with no change in prices.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots - OREGON, Mixed Flowers 12, 5-lb. cans \$11.60; 12, 2¹/₂-lb. glass jars \$5.50. CALIFORNIA, Mixed Flowers 12, 5-lb. cans \$10.00-10.80. IDAHO, Sweetclover-Alfalfa bulk 13¹/₂-14¹/₂ per lb.

COMB: No supplies.

BEESWAX Demand slow. Dealers paying 41-41¹/₂¢ for best colored wax.

ST LOUIS: Receipts very light. Demand slow, market steady. Sales by commission merchants to retailers -

COMB: ILLINOIS and MISSOURI, Amber Mixed Flowers 2-dozen cartons cellophane-wrapped \$4.00.

EXTRACTED: No sales reported.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND, AND ALAMEDA: Receipts via truck - Central California, 1046 cases Light Amber to Extra White, Orange, Lima Bean, Sage, Clover, Blue Curl, Mixed Flowers, 30 cases Light Amber Alfalfa, 40 cases Dark Amber Mixed Flowers, 17 cases Cappings; Northern California, 100 cases Light Amber to Extra White Thistle. Beeswax, 3560 lbs. from Central California.

EXTRACTED: The following quotations are from bottlers to wholesalers and other case lot buyers - CALIFORNIA, White Orange, Sage, Thistle, per dozen, 5-lb. cans \$10.12-10.50, 5-lb. glass jars \$10.00, 2-lb. glass jars \$4.68-4.90, 1¹/₂-lb. glass jars \$3.50-3.75, 1-lb. glass jars \$2.50, few \$3.00, 8-oz. glass jars \$1.52-1.47, 12-oz. glass jars \$2.17.

BEESWAX Beekeepers receiving 41-42¢ delivered Bay Cities from Central California.

SEATTLE: No receipts by motor truck reported. Demand good, market firm to stronger.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots- WASHINGTON, IDAHO, AND CALIFORNIA, Alfalfa-Sweetclover, Light to Extra Light Amber, 60-lb. cans \$9.10-10.00; 12, 5-lb. pails \$10.41-10.05; 24, 2¹/₂-lb. cans \$10.80; 24, 24-oz. jars \$7.35-8.00; 24, 20-oz. jars \$6.25-6.99; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.10-5.70; 24, 11-oz. jars \$3.70-4.10; 24, 8-oz. jars \$3.10-3.45; 12, 5-lb. jars and 6, 10-lb. jars \$10.50-11.60; Dark to Amber 60-lb. cans \$3.40-9.25. WASHINGTON, creamed honey 24, 16-oz. cups \$5.25; 24, 40-oz. cups \$12.00.

COMB: Sales to retailers - IDAHO, 24, 12-oz. Fancy \$5.50, U. S. No. 1, \$5.00.

NEW YORK: Arrivals by rail 121,255 lbs. Calif., 34,100 lbs. Fla., 298,996 lbs. origin not specified, 59,100 lbs. Calif. in retail packages; by truck 561 lbs. 14 kegs N.Y. Offerings of all kinds light. Very few sales. Market firm.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers, buyers and manufacturers - CALIFORNIA, Light Amber Alfalfa 15-15¹/₂¢. NEW YORK, Buckwheat 12¹/₂-13¹/₂¢. FLORIDA, White Typelo 15¢. Imported, sales and nominal quotations, Light grades in barrels 12-13¢, in cans 13-13¹/₂¢, Darker grades in barrels 12-12¹/₂¢.

BEESWAX: 304 bags arrived, origin not specified. No offerings of crude stock reported.

meg

Released January 6, 1943.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

January 5, 1943

HONEY AND BEESWAX PRODUCTION

About 179,000,000 pounds of honey and 3,380,000 pounds of beeswax were produced in the United States in 1942. These estimates are based upon returns to the United States Department of Agriculture from beekeepers producing about 22 percent of the entire honey crop of 1942.

This year's production of honey was 21 percent smaller than the crop of 226,000,000 pounds produced in 1941. Although the number of hives on hand at the beginning of the main honey flow in 1942 was 10 percent greater than in 1941, and bloom was abundant, frequent rains over most of the country kept the bees confined to their hives during much of the honey harvesting period, resulting in the smallest honey crop for many years.

Because of the call this year for beeswax for use in war manufacturing processes, producers made special efforts to increase the supply by saving all possible wax, by rendering out imperfect or damaged brood combs and by deeper de-capping. As a result, beeswax production is only 3 percent smaller than last year, although normally the production fluctuates fairly closely with the production of honey. Producers also have marketed reserve stocks carried over from former years.

Average honey yields per colony were smaller than last year in all the major geographic areas of the country. The greatest decreases in yield were 51 percent in the East North Central and 45 percent in the North Atlantic States. They were lower than last year by 32 percent in the West North Central, by 21 percent in the South Central, 9 percent in the South Atlantic and 4 percent in the Western States.

The year's total honey crop was relatively shortest -- 45 percent less than in 1941 -- in the East North Central States, where a 12 percent gain in number of colonies could not avail against the 51 percent smaller average yield per colony. For like reasons, the crop was 39 percent less than last year in the North Atlantic area. In the West North Central States, even with an 18 percent gain in colonies, the crop was 19 percent less, and in the South Central States the crop decreased 18 percent. In only two areas was there even a slight gain in total honey production, 1 percent in the South Atlantic and 4 percent in the West, both due to more colonies.

Producers reported in early November that they had remaining on hand for sale 23 percent of their entire 1942 production of honey and 46 percent of their beeswax production.

Colonies of bees on hand in November were about 7 percent more numerous than at the beginning of the honey flow. Ordinarily the winter loss of colonies is considerably greater than 7 percent, and a heavy spring increase in colonies will be necessary, by division of those that survive the winter and by purchase of package bees from the South, if the desired increase in producing colonies next year is to be realized.

Prices reported as received by producers for extracted honey this year averaged 11.7 cents per pound when sold wholesale and 15.4 cents retail. This price includes both large lots sold to outside markets and smaller wholesale quantities sold locally to dealers and large consumers. Comb honey prices to producers averaged 16.6 cents wholesale and 20.2 cents retail. Chunk and bulk comb honey averaged 13.4 cents wholesale and 17.4 cents retail. Beeswax prices averaged 40.3 cents per pound.

These estimates cover all colonies of bees, both those owned by farmers and by townsmen, and both small apiaries for home supplies and large holdings for commercial production.

(Data by States and major geographic areas appear on the reverse side of this sheet.)

HONEYBEES: NUMBER OF COLONIES AND PRODUCTION OF HONEY AND BEESWAX, 1941-42

State: and Geog. Div.	Number of colonies		Yield per colony		Honey Production		Beeswax production		On hand for sale November 1942	
	1941	1942	1941	1942	1941	1942	1941	1942	Honey	Beeswax
	Thousands		Pounds		Thousand pounds		Thousand pounds		Thousand pounds	
Me.	5	6	16	20	60	112	1	2	31	1
N.H.	4	3	35	30	122	90	2	2	18	1
Vt.	7	8	40	45	280	360	4	6	65	3
Mass.	14	17	30	15	420	255	10	8	105	5
R. I.	1	1	27	20	32	26	2/	1	6	1
Conn.	17	20	33	30	561	600	14	18	306	14
N. Y.	190	210	86	45	15,200	9,450	167	131	2,362	63
N. J.	25	27	48	14	1,200	378	24	10	151	8
Pa.	170	190	40	20	6,800	3,300	136	74	1,254	50
N. Atl.	433	482	57.1	31.3	24,395	15,071	353	252	4,298	146
Ohio	275	310	52	23	14,300	7,130	243	145	2,709	103
Ind.	190	210	62	25	11,780	5,250	209	124	1,050	79
Ill.	205	225	55	20	11,275	4,500	130	112	1,215	66
Mich.	160	176	64	45	10,240	7,920	133	142	2,455	74
Wis.	160	183	70	40	11,200	7,320	141	122	2,123	67
E. N. C.	990	1,104	59.4	29.1	58,795	32,120	956	645	9,552	389
Minn.	210	240	90	70	18,900	16,800	236	269	4,200	105
Iowa	167	200	114	55	19,038	11,000	238	211	2,200	72
Mo.	136	160	34	18	4,624	2,880	69	46	720	35
N. Dak.	21	24	99	88	2,079	2,112	24	30	591	14
S. Dak.	14	17	98	112	1,372	1,904	22	33	324	20
Nebr.	37	46	110	120	4,070	5,520	61	103	552	23
Kans.	31	40	45	35	1,395	1,400	28	26	294	15
W. N. C.	616	727	83.6	57.2	51,478	41,616	678	723	8,881	234
Del.	3	4	17	10	54	38	1	1	3	1
Md.	23	24	21	14	483	336	6	7	84	5
Va.	116	123	29	18	3,364	2,304	44	39	507	21
W. Va.	95	120	23	13	2,185	1,560	22	22	140	11
N. C.	164	183	19	18	3,116	3,294	62	82	362	23
S. C.	50	55	16	18	800	990	16	25	168	12
Ga.	160	173	20	25	3,200	4,325	41	63	130	26
Fla.	146	150	53	55	7,733	8,250	135	140	825	34
S. Atl.	757	837	27.7	25.2	20,940	21,097	327	379	2,224	133
Ky.	140	147	13	12	1,320	1,764	20	25	300	15
Tenn.	150	158	25	12	3,750	1,896	66	44	284	22
Ala.	116	128	18	13	2,038	1,664	47	46	166	17
Miss.	53	56	16	14	848	784	24	23	86	10
Ark.	75	75	16	13	1,200	975	23	24	136	10
La.	52	56	25	18	1,300	1,008	24	19	171	6
Okla.	54	53	30	25	1,620	1,450	22	29	261	13
Tex.	200	196	24	24	4,800	4,704	76	82	470	20
S. Cent.	840	874	20.7	16.3	17,426	14,245	302	292	1,874	113
Mont.	33	37	128	123	4,224	4,736	87	104	1,039	57
Idaho	123	124	42	57	5,376	7,068	117	157	2,050	53
Wyo.	30	31	90	93	2,700	2,883	46	58	346	33
Colo.	64	66	75	90	4,300	5,940	96	101	2,079	60
N. Mex.	15	15	37	45	555	675	9	14	304	7
Ariz.	78	90	95	80	7,410	7,200	99	112	1,728	41
Utah	51	47	23	45	1,173	2,115	26	44	275	28
Nev.	13	13	22	60	236	730	6	16	31	5
Wash.	64	71	20	23	1,280	1,633	25	33	653	21
Oreg.	51	54	40	30	2,040	1,620	38	39	470	16
Calif.	395	450	58	45	22,910	20,250	325	411	4,658	177
West.	922	998	57.2	55.0	52,754	54,900	874	1,039	13,633	500
U. S.	4,553	5,022	49.6	35.7	226,038	179,049	3,495	3,360	40,512	1,565

1/ Revised.

2/ Less than 500 pounds.

for

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Food Distribution Administration

FEB 18 1943

Telephone- REpublic 4142,
Branch 2176.

Washington, D. C.
January 15, 1943.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - NO. 592

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS (First half of January)

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted.)

SUMMARY

Following two weeks of abnormally warm weather in the east central and eastern portions of the country there was a decided reaction to lower temperature that reached into the southern States. This was especially severe in the Northeast, where extremely cold weather was reported. Temperatures west of the Plains States were slightly warmer than normal, and short bee flights were reported even in the Mountain States. In the eastern Clover Belt bees have been confined to the hives for so many weeks that some beekeepers are concerned over their safety. Southern California continues to suffer for lack of rainfall, especially in the sage sections.

Although numerous carlots and ton lot sales of honey have been reported during this period many beekeepers report that they are completely sold out and are unable to fill even local orders. Inquiries for both small and large lots of honey reported numerous, and many large buyers are wiring and writing extensively to commercial honey producing areas in the hope of securing some honey with which to continue their packing operations. Sales of honey are being maintained closely at ceiling levels, though some beekeepers advise that they are holding honey in the hope that these prices may be allowed to advance before the end of the season. In some areas butter shortage is stimulating demand for honey.

Package bees and queens are being ordered in such large numbers that many southern package beemen are already booked to 75 percent of their capacity. The labor situation is one of the chief limiting factors in curtailing the volume of orders which package-bee shippers will accept. It is also handicapping Northern beekeepers in their plans for the 1943 season.

Amendments to OPA Price Ceiling Order 275

The Office of Price Administration issued on January 15, Amendments 1 and 2 to Maximum Price Regulation 275 on extracted honey. Amendment 1 corrects an error in the original order giving the method of arriving at the permitted cost increase in transportation over that of the base period; it also permits persons who made no purchases of bulk honey during the September-November 1941 base period to take 5.6¢ per lb. as their average weighted cost. Those who bought honey through brokers or other intermediaries can also use 5.6¢ per lb. as the average weighted cost per lb. if the beekeepers' f.o.b. price cannot be calculated otherwise. Amendment No. 2 says that beekeepers selling less than 1,000 lbs. of packaged honey annually need not return to the Office of Price Administration the detailed reports required of all sellers of honey in the original order. Such beekeepers must, however, continue to retain in their possession the records showing their computation of prices, which must be produced for examination upon demand by OPA.

CALIFORNIA POINTS:-

Southern California. Light rains fell on one or two occasions, but these were inadequate, and it has recently been very dry with a strong desert wind, which further reduced soil moisture. Beekeepers are concerned lest there be insufficient moisture for the coming season. Bees in the hills are dormant, but those in the valleys are gathering some honey from eucalyptus and from occasional mustard in orange groves. Scattered orange blossoms are also attracting bees. Some pollen is being brought to the hives. Brood is found in a few hives in the hill territory and in numerous hives in orchard areas. Bees are being placed in avocado groves with the hope that colonies can build up on this source. Demand for honey was generally good during this period, with very light offerings. Practically all trading, regardless of type or grade of honey, has been at the ceiling price. Some beekeepers are still holding 1942 crop honey in the hope that prices may advance. Sales by beekeepers reported in ton lots or more, per case of 120 pounds delivered Southern California points - Orange; Extra Light Amber to Extra White \$14.40-15.20; Sage, White to Extra White \$14.00-15.20. Beeswax has been in fairly good demand at 41¢ per lb. in cash, or 43¢ per lb. in trade.

REVIEW OF 1942 SEASON BEGINS ON PAGE 6.

Imperial Valley. Little or no rain reported in the Imperial Valley recently and the desert plants are very dry. Stores have been abundant and colonies are reported in good condition. Bees have little on which to work at present, but early flights should soon bring in a little nectar to stimulate spring broodrearing. Alfalfa plantings are reported normal. Sales reported of Light Amber to Extra Light Amber Alfalfa at \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds at country points.

Central California. The weather has been cool with considerable fog, but little rain reported. Bees have been wintering satisfactorily but are not rearing brood at this time. Clusters are generally of good size and contain young bees. Eucalyptus is blooming in a few places. Orange trees are in fine condition but ground plants should have more rain to bring them into shape for early nectar flow. Occasional colonies are being moved to almond and fruit groves. Stores reported light in many hives. The market is unsettled with a few producers holding remaining lots of honey in the hope that some revision will be made in present price regulations. Stocks are so light that bottlers are rationing remaining honey to retailers. Few sales reported, delivered Interior Valley points - Water White Orange 12¢ per lb.; delivered Los Angeles: per case of 120 pounds - San Joaquin Valley, Extra Light Amber Cotton-Alfalfa \$14.90; Light Amber to Extra Light Amber Mixed Flowers \$14.90-15.10.

Northern California. Temperatures have not been sufficiently cold to stop the growth of various grasses and winter weeds, and rainfall has aided in their development. Chickweed is already blooming, some two weeks ahead of normal. Bees are also working on scattered mustard and eucalyptus. Broodrearing has already started. More snow is needed in the high mountains for later use. Manzanita bushes at an elevation of 3,000 feet or more have a good bud development. Offerings of honey have been very light. Sales by beekeepers in ton lots or more, delivered Bay Cities - White to Extra White Thistle 12¢; delivered Interior Valley points - White Thistle 12¢.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST:-

for best bee development.

West of Cascades. The weather has generally been too cool / The bees are wintering well, but an occasional warm day would help as the bees are badly in need of a good flight. There has been an abundance of rain and snow so that moisture condition is good, which should result in ample spring bloom. Snow melting in high altitudes has caused serious floods with damage in the lower Willamette Valley. Little damage reported to bees, however, as they were mostly on elevations too high for the flood waters to reach. Stocks of honey in hands of beekeepers very light, and bottler supplies are also light.

East of Cascades. The winter so far has been mild with considerable rain and some snow. Consequently moisture conditions are favorable for the early bloom. Weather has kept most bees confined to the hives, but the few bees which did fly showed that flights are badly needed. Where bees had sufficient stores they are wintering well; but many colonies will need feeding in the spring. Beekeepers would like to see more alfalfa and clover acreage to help honey production. Some new land is being seeded to hay due to higher prices for hay, but these new crops will not benefit the bees before 1944. The production of mint in eastern Washington is spoiling some bee pasture. The mint nectar ruins the honey for table use and to a certain extent for baking also. The demand for honey is good, but supplies are light, very little honey remaining in the producers' hands or on grocers' shelves. A few sales of 5-lb. pails by beekeepers are reported at 85¢-\$1.09 per pail retail and 72¢ per pail wholesale. Occasional sale of No. 1 comb honey, \$4.00 per case.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION:-

Stock of honey are everywhere lessening rapidly. Though apparently occasional commercial beekeepers still have honey available, many small beekeepers are completely sold out and are without stocks to take care of the needs of their local trade. One beekeeper writes, "A day never passes but what some inquiry comes in for honey from case lots to carlots but no honey is to be had." Ceiling prices are being maintained in most instances. Several carlots of Extra Light Amber to Extra White Sweetclover-Alfalfa reported sold at 11½¢ per lb. cars returned; ton lots at the same price; few 60s high as 13¢ and few 10¢; small pails 14-15¢, few 12-13¢ per lb.; few sales Light Amber in ton lots at 10¢ per lb. Beeswax has sold almost uniformly at 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. beekeepers' shipping point. Details by States follow:

Colorado. Eastern Colorado has almost no snow, but bees appear to be wintering well. While plants are not suffering, some moisture would be advantageous in the lower altitudes, though snow has fallen frequently in the mountains. On the Western Slope more snow is needed if water for irrigation purposes is to be adequate. Bees have been able to fly occasionally in all parts of the State and have used more stores than normal for this season of the year.

- continued -

Wyoming. Bees are wintering well and have recently had several days of good flying weather. The weather has been unusually mild for this time of year. Snow still covers the State, however, except in the extreme eastern portion. Supplies of honey are exceptionally light.

Montana. Temperatures have been lower in Montana but bees have had a couple of days during which those in a portion of the State could fly. Clusters are quiet in the hive, and consumption of honey by the bees so far has been moderate.

Idaho. The weather has been mild, with much precipitation during the past month. Snow in the mountains has been heavy, with rain in the lower valley where the ground is full of moisture. Some colonies have not been packed because of the shortage of help. The consumption of stores has been heavy and considerable feeding will be necessary if bees are to survive.

Utah. The weather has been warm for this time of year and in some sections bees have been able to fly a little. Consumption of stores has been heavy. Considerable moisture has fallen, but this has been mostly in the form of rain. Some beekeepers are moving colonies to California for the orange flow.

Nevada. The weather in Western Nevada has been favorable for bees, with some rain reported. Snow is needed in the higher mountains. Snowfall has been reported in Eastern Nevada, with prospects good for sufficient irrigation water for 1943. Some beekeepers are melting up old combs rather closely.

ARIZONA: -

Owing to the long spell of warm weather bees in the Salt River Valley have used more honey than usual, but colonies are still sufficiently heavy to go through the spring breeding season in good condition. In Southeastern Arizona crop prospects have been poor until the last few days, when they have improved slightly. There is a scarcity of ground flowers, however, and concern is expressed lest mesquite bloom may be blighted in some sections because of the drouth. Sales reported of Light Amber to Extra Light Amber Alfalfa lies quite at \$14.40 per case of 120 lbs. F.O.B. country points, with other sales reported delivered Los Angeles at \$15.20 per case.

SOUTHWESTERN STATES: -

Southcentral and Southwestern Texas. Recent rains have relieved the drouth situation and greatly improved the prospects for early honey flora. Buds on agarita are swelling and the first bloom is apt to appear soon. It has been sufficiently cool to keep bees in the hive. Consumer demand is reported fair, but little honey remains on grocers' shelves. Reported sales of both honey and beeswax are at ceiling levels.

Rio Grande Valley. A drouth of four-months' duration was broken early in January with some two inches of rainfall. Since then the weather has been cool and drizzling most of the time. The rain was sufficiently gentle so that it did not run off but is providing a desirable soil moisture. Because of the long dry spell honey plants are not yet in the best of condition. It is reported that fruit trees which were irrigated earlier may bloom long before their regular time, resulting in an uneven blooming period. Colonies have been maintained in good condition in spite of the dry weather. Little honey remains in beekeepers' hands.

Southeast Texas. No killing frosts yet reported. Bees are securing a little pollen on warm days. This is not sufficient, however, to stimulate broodrearing and colonies are nearly dormant. Continued rainfall has made many country roads impassable and beekeepers fear that colonies may suffer for lack of feed before they can be reached. Demand for package bees and queens continues good.

New Mexico. Bees have been dormant though winter on the whole has been very mild. Snow cover is reported south to the Mesilla Valley. Supplies of honey are becoming exhausted, and beekeepers plan to take care of their established trade only. Sales reported extracted Sweetclover in small containers, 14.2-14.8¢ per lb.

Arkansas. Cool, cloudy, rainy weather has kept bees in the hive during this period and no recent flights have been reported.

Oklahoma. The weather has recently been favorable for wintering bees. No excessive cold reported and bees have not been continuously confined to the hive for more than a few days at a time. Moisture for plant growth has been ample and honey plants are reported in good condition.

PLAINS AREA: -

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. A good protective covering of snow is reported with temperatures ranging 10° - 20° below zero. In some sections it is feared bee losses will be heavy due to thinness of stores; in other sections signs point to normal wintering. Beekeepers are being urged to anticipate their needs for package bees and to place their orders early. Honey is being sold in a small way on the local markets, but the shelves of many stores are empty where honey was formerly displayed. Sales reported of White Sweetclover at 12¢ per lb. in 60s, 14¢ per lb. in small pails. Very little

activity in either honey or beeswax. The spread between prices being paid beekeepers and to the retailers is so wide that honey producers are inclined to do more packing to secure the higher returns for themselves.

Iowa. The weather has been cold enough to keep the bees dormant but they have been able to change clusters to fresh honey. Snow has been sufficient to protect the honey plants. Winter losses may be heavy if the bees cannot get flights before long. Bees in cellars which have plenty of moisture are in fine shape. A little honey has been sold during this period, but supplies are generally cleaned up. 5-lb. glass jars are selling at 80-90¢ at stores. Wax rendering is being finished up, and stocks are moving out rapidly at ceiling prices.

Nebraska. Snow and cold weather reported. In some parts of the state freezing rains with snow have caused anxiety about the vegetation. Bees in cellars are wintering well, and some out-of-door colonies are reported getting along all right too, but others have been confined too long. There may be a curtailing of honey plants since some farmers are using their land for wheat production. A few sales of extracted White Sweetclover reported in single 60s and larger lots at 12¢ and in small pails at 15-17¢ per lb.; also a few sales of White comb at \$4.80-5.00, and few high as \$6.00 for No. 1; \$4.25 for No. 2, per case.

Kansas. There has been little severely cold weather in this State, but plenty of moisture from rains and snows is reported. Bees are in good condition and prospects for next year are good. Sweetclovers may be curtailed somewhat and bees may have to depend on white Dutch clover. A few sales of extracted are reported, White to Light Amber Alfalfa at 12¢-13¢ per lb. in small pails and 12½¢ per lb. in single 60s; Light Amber Fall Flowers at 13¢ per lb. in 5-lb. pails and 11¢ per lb. in single 60s.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES:-

Michigan. Snow covers the entire State, with 20 inches or more in the upper portion, providing good protection for next year's honey plants. The temperature has been sufficiently low so that bees have not had a flight for a couple of months. Reports differ regarding the condition of stores in different colonies. Beekeepers are looking forward to a larger crop of honey in 1943 than was harvested last season. Stocks of honey are now very light. The price ceiling announcement has brought out most remaining lots of White honey, though it is selling at a cent or two below prices in effect before the ceiling became effective. Ten lots White extracted reported sold at 12¢ per lb., few small pails 17¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ per lb.

Wisconsin. With no frost in the ground and snow cover ranging up to 20 inches in depth, soil conditions should be very satisfactory for the 1943 clover crop. The bees seem to be wintering well, but temperatures have been too low to allow any flight for the past 6 weeks. Very little honey remains in beekeepers' hands, with demand good for those small lots. Most sales are in 1-lb. jars, with few stores having 5 or 10-lb. pails remaining for sale. Sales reported White extracted, ten lots 11½-12¢, small pails 14-15¢, few 17¢ per lb. Beeswax, 40-41½¢ per lb.

Minnesota. Normal winter weather has prevailed. Though the latter part of the period was rather mild no flight weather has been reported. A good snow cover is reported over the entire State, but no excessive snowfalls. Beekeepers consider the weather ideal for colonies properly prepared for winter. In the southern part of the State ice cover over the snow resulted from a rainfall but it is not anticipated that it harmed the young clover plants. Honey is so scarce that it is disappearing from local stores. Occasional sales by beekeepers 60s or more reported at 12-12½¢ per lb., occasional 60s 14¢; 5-lb. pails 14¢ per lb. Few sales No. 2 wrapped comb, \$3.60 per case.

Ohio. During the early part of the period temperatures were moderate and bees were given an opportunity for partial flight over most of the State. In occasional areas heavy rainfall kept bees in the hive and as stores were often inferior many colonies are definitely in need of a flight. The ground is covered with snow and prospects for a big crop of honey in 1943 are encouraging. Many beekeepers are considering purchasing package bees for colony expansion, but shortage of supplies may limit these intentions. Few sales reported 60s White extracted 12¢ per lb. Inquiries continue to be received for large lots of honey and beeswax, but little remains unsold.

Indiana. The early part of this period was characterized by almost continuous light, misty rains and a temperature close to freezing. More recently it has been much colder, reaching below zero, and much snow has fallen. Clovers are reported in good shape for next year. Many colonies are running short of stores and even well-kept yards will frequently be in need of feeding before fruit bloom comes on in the spring. This is especially true in the case of colonies operated for extracted honey as colonies run for comb generally seem to have more adequate stores. Both comb and extracted honey are very scarce and are generally available in small lots only.

Illinois. The weather moderated sufficiently, early in the month, to permit many colonies a brief flight, but remaining colonies are giving evidence of needing a flight. Considerable feeding will be necessary in the spring. Snow cover reported over most of the State at the close of the period. Demand for honey is steady with little left on the market. Some beekeepers are already ordering package bees for early spring delivery. Supplies of honey light. Sales reported White extracted ton lots 12¢ per lb., Light Amber small pails 12¢ per lb. Beeswax, crude yellow 41-41½¢ per lb. cash to beekeepers, 43-43½¢ in trade.

Kentucky. The entire period has been cold, with snow cover toward the close in the upper portion of the State. Following excessive rainfall during the fall and winter months honey plants are in good condition. Bees have been confined to the hives with the exception of one day when short flights were possible. Low mortality is indicated by dead bee removal near hive entrances. Inquiry for honey is active but little is available for sale. Beeswax reported sold at 41¢ per lb. cash, 43¢ per lb. in trade.

NORTHEASTERN STATES:-

New York. Precipitation has been heavy with more water in lakes and streams than for many years at this season of the year. Clovers are well protected with a heavy blanket of snow. In the northern part of the State beekeepers report snow as deep as 6 feet on the level, and say this has been the coldest and stormiest winter in 50 years. Bees are quiet and seem to be wintering well, though sub-zero temperatures have been reported and bees wintered outside may find it difficult to move to new stores. Bees in the cellar are very quiet. The movement of honey, on the part of those who still have honey unsold, has been unusually rapid for this period of the year. Very little honey still remains, however, in producers' hands. Sales reported White extracted, chiefly Clover, 60s 14-16¢ per lb., few ton lots 14¢, small pails 15-16¢ per lb.; Buckwheat, small pails 15¢ per lb. Occasional sale No. 1 White comb, \$4.80 per case. Beeswax reported sold at 40-43½¢ per lb.

Pennsylvania. Heavy snow and near-zero weather reported, especially in the western part of the State, where the altitude is high. Even where snow cover is light bees have been confined to their hives for some 6 weeks and beekeepers feel some concern for their safety. Stores in the hives are being depleted rather rapidly and considerable feeding may be necessary early in the spring. With the stringent gasoline rationing beekeepers who formerly disposed of their honey direct to consumers or through roadside stands are now selling to the grocery trade. Occasional sales reported extracted 12¢ per lb. Beeswax, 41-41½¢ per lb.

New Jersey. Colonies have wintered well so far. Some are short of stores but clusters are made up primarily of young bees. Clover plants look well and in the upper part of the State are under a light blanket of snow. Few sales reported small containers Clover-Sumac 22¢ per lb. No. 1 Clover-Sumac comb, \$4.80 per case. Supplies of comb honey are about exhausted, with prices holding firm.

Connecticut. Demand for honey remains brisk. The butter shortage is reported as effective in this demand as the sugar shortage.

Vermont. The weather continues cold, sometimes below zero. The Champlain Valley has 6 inches of snow. Demand for honey continues strong, but supplies are disappearing. Sales reported White Clover, small pails 15¢ per lb.; 1-lb. glass jars 17¢ per lb.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES:-

Maryland. Following substantial rainfall early in the period light snows have fallen recently but soon melted. Most beekeepers have sold out, except for small lots reserved for local trade. ^{Virginia.} The weather has been very cold and more snow has fallen than usual. Although bees seem to be in good condition some feeding will have to be done as soon as weather permits as stores are frequently short. Numerous inquiries reported for honey, with little available. Some beekeepers are already planning to enlarge their apiaries during the coming season. Medium beeswax reported sold at 41½¢ per lb. in cash, 43½¢ per lb. in trade.

West Virginia. The winter has been unusually cold, keeping bees in the hives most of the time. Winter clusters have been greatly reduced. Many colonies reported in need of a flight.

North Carolina. Crimson clover looks good for next year. Bees have wintered well so far. Commercial beekeepers reported handicapped by the leaving of their help for military service.

SOUTHEASTERN STATES:-

Georgia. Bees are wintering well and the abundance of rainfall is making prospects bright for an average crop of honey this year. Inquiries for honey are numerous but practically none is now available for sale.

Florida. Bees are bringing in pollen when the weather is warm enough. Colonies are in fair shape and have already used up most of their stores. In the northern part of the State bears are reported numerous and destroying many colonies of bees. Frequent orders for packages and queens reported. Few sales

reported Mangrove-Buttonwood, in barrels 10¢ per lb., in small containers 12½¢ per lb. Beeswax, 41½¢ per lb.

Alabama. Bees are generally wintering well. The weather has been warm enough for adequate flights, and yet not so warm as to stimulate broodrearing. Orders for package bees and queens continue to come in rapidly, with some shippers already sold out until early May. Honey is practically all out of the hands of beekeepers. Rainfall has aided honey prospects considerably.

Mississippi. The winter has so far been cool, but it can hardly be considered cold, and wintering has so far resulted in only small consumption of stores. Most honey has been sold.

Louisiana. In Southern Louisiana rain and cold weather have resulted in little bee activity during this period. Scale colonies have lost 2 pounds in weight during the period. Some colonies have a small amount of brood, but many have no brood at all. In portions of the area a little pollen is available on fair days, principally from ornamentals. Willows have started budding. Stores are lessening rapidly. Orders for package bees are early and heavy. Many packers have already booked orders up to 75 percent of capacity. Orders for queens are also reported to be breaking all records and present indications point to an insufficient supply to meet the anticipated demand. Preparations for spring production and shipping of packages and queens are up to schedule. Demand for honey still fair but little local honey reported on the market. In Northern Louisiana cool weather has now curtailed broodrearing, which was in progress during the previous months. Winter stores have been somewhat depleted as a result, and considerable early feeding is in progress. Scale colonies have lost weight heavily during the past two months. Most colonies have ample young bees and colonies should come through the winter in good shape. Beeswax is about cleaned up, with a good demand reported at 41-43½¢ per lb. to the beekeeper.

SUMMARY OF 1942 HONEY SEASON

In Brief: Short crop; higher prices; labor shortage; price ceilings established for both honey and beeswax; allocation order issued preserving honey supplies for home use.

1943 Prospects Encouraging. The close of the year 1942 finds prospects for a good nectar yield in 1943 unusually encouraging because of the abundance of rainfall during recent months. Most colonies of bees went into winter in good condition, but stores were frequently light and winter losses may be substantial, especially where sugar sirup cannot be fed early. Whether package bees will be sufficiently numerous to not only replace losses but to take care of the colony increase that beekeepers are planning in many areas will depend upon weather conditions in the South and upon the availability of labor by package bee men and queen breeders. Already many package bee men have sold ahead 75 percent or more of their anticipated output.

1942 Crop Very Short. The size of the 1942 crop was one of great disappointment to beekeepers. At the beginning of the season relatively light winter losses in most part of the country, the generally strong colonies of bees, the unusual amount of precipitation that placed nectar-bearing plants in good condition, and the sharply higher market that augured well for a profitable marketing season, combined to cause leaders of the beekeeping industry to hope for the biggest crop of honey in many years. Unfortunately, as the season progressed excessive rainy, cloudy, cool, and windy days kept bees in the hives during too many days when they should have been flying and gathering nectar, and a very short crop was the result. The final estimate of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics issued January 5, 1943, indicated a production of 179 million pounds of honey in 1942, a reduction of 21 percent from the revised estimate for the 1941 crop of 226 million pounds.

This year the best yields were in the Plains and Mountain States. Nebraska is reported by BAE as having a yield per colony of 120 pounds, and the yield of colonies in Montana is given as 128 pounds. On the other hand, important States like Ohio, Illinois, Iowa, had yields in 1942 less than half those reported for the preceding season.

The quality of the 1942 crop of honey appears to be better than normal with a larger-than-usual proportion ranging from White to Water White in color. The excessive moisture and high humidity during much of the nectar-gathering season, however, resulted in the crop being lighter in weight than normal in portions of the country.

WFB Allocates Honey Distribution. The short crop was especially disappointing to beekeepers because of the higher prices prevailing throughout 1942. The upward spiraling of the market occurred early in the year. As the realization of the sugar shortage became more definite, ice cream manufacturers, soft drink bottlers, makers of chocolate sirup, and other industrial users that had previously bought little honey, endeavored to obtain honey for sweetening purposes and were willing to pay substantial premiums for it. As a result the

already light supply of honey became still more scarce and prices continued to rise. The marketing problem was aided when on March 26 the War Production Board issued order W-118 limiting the amount of honey that could be used by previous non-users such as ice cream manufacturers and soft drink bottlers to 60 pounds per month and of former users to their previous year's takings. Supplies of packers were not curtailed nor was any curb placed on the sale of honey for home consumption. In fact, the chief purpose of the allocation order was to aid in reserving more honey for the home than otherwise would have been possible.

An amendment to this order issued on June 18, 1942, permitted previous buyers to use 120 percent of the honey used by them during the corresponding period in 1941. New buyers of honey were allowed to increase their use of honey to 600 pounds per quarter if that figure were larger than 120 percent of their previous year's purchases. Further, in an effort to expand the post-war market for honey, manufacturers who declared their intention of using honey in new products after the war instead of switching to some other sweet were allowed to appeal to WPB for a special quota allotment of honey.

Imports Substantial Early In 1942. During the early part of the year substantial receipts of honey from other countries contributed to a temporary market sluggishness. As a result much of this imported honey was permitted by the War Production Board to go to the hands of bottlers of soft drinks and to other buyers with low quotas. At the present time little honey is coming into the country, although in view of the short crop imported honey would no doubt find a ready sale. Imports from other than border countries are, however, restricted by licenses.

Price Ceiling Orders. The first price ceiling order on honey was for extracted and chunk honey, and was included under the General Maximum Price Regulation, effective May 11, 1942. This covered sales at all levels including packers, wholesalers and retailers, and sales by beekeepers totaling \$75.00 a month or more. Under the provisions of this act the maximum price which could be charged for extracted or chunk honey was the top figure at which it was sold to a purchaser of the same class during March 1942.

This order was superseded by WPR 275, effective December 3, 1942, which placed a top price of 12¢ per lb. at beekeepers' shipping points on extracted honey of U. S. No. 1 grade or better, with a discount of 1/2¢ per pound when the buyer furnished the container. The sale of packaged honey, and of resales of bulk honey, are determined by a formula method of procedure. The original order called for the filing of detailed report blanks by all packers of honey, even if they sold only to their next-door neighbors. Under an amendment effective January 13, 1943, however, beekeepers selling less than 1,000 pounds a year do not have to submit report blanks listing the details of their sales.

Comb honey sales have not been affected as yet by any price regulation; but sales of bulk comb honey come under the price ceiling regulations that apply to extracted honey.

Beeswax Also Under Price Ceiling. Demand for beeswax during the past year has been greater than the supply. Many new uses have developed in defense industries and also in non-defense fields. Although imports were above normal during 1942 a shortage in beeswax supplies has existed throughout the year. Effective November 13, 1942 OPA placed a ceiling on beeswax, both domestic and imported. Maximum prices for crude domestic wax were set at 41¢ per lb. cash at the apiary, or 43¢ per lb. in trade, which were close to the market prices then prevailing. The order also closed up appreciably the former price differentials existing between the prices of domestic and of imported waxes.

Sugar Available for Feeding Bees. Beekeepers have been given the opportunity of registering as industrial users of sugar, and on this basis can secure 10 pounds of sugar per colony per year for feeding their bees. Early in the fall of 1942 OPA issued an emergency order permitting beekeepers to draw ahead on their 1943 quota and on half of their 1944 quota if necessary to carry their bees over winter and if their 1942 sugar quota had become exhausted.

Many beekeepers have been handicapped during the season by the calling of their expert workers to some branch of the Armed Services. On September 16, 1942 Occupational Bulletin No. 18 of Selective Service System listed "beekeepers" among the "critical occupations" in agricultural activity. That list was confined to occupations requiring six months or more of training and preparation. At the present time study has been given by the Department of Agriculture and by the War Man Power Commission to determine the number of colonies of bees necessary to defer a beekeeper.

6Cs Available. Conservation Order W-81 of the War Production Board, as amended December 9, 1942 permits a packing quota of 100 percent of the 1942 pack of 30-pound cans. Tin pails holding less than 60 pounds of honey will not be available for civilian use for packaging honey in 1943, but it now appears that glass containers will be adequate for normal needs.

Recent rulings regarding tires and gas indicate that commercial beekeepers, being considered essential agricultural workers, will be given careful consideration with respect to their needs of both tires and gas. Beekeepers who

consider their initial gasoline allotments on their Certificates of War Necessity inadequate can apply for adjustments of mileage and of gasoline gallonage to the County Farm Transportation Committees of their County USDA War Boards.

Pollination Value of Bees Stressed. During the past few months the importance of bees in pollination has been receiving increasing attention. The seed production of over 50 fruits, vegetables, legumes, and other field crops is dependent on insect pollination. And the honey bee is the only insect effective in pollination whose population and movement can be controlled by man. The necessity of shipping abroad millions of pounds of agricultural seeds to the devastated countries of Europe and other continents gives added significance to the value of bees and of beekeeping to the agricultural economy of the country.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the middle of January. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: Arrivals: Extracted, 100, 60-lb. cans N.Y. and 100, 60-lb. cans Minn.

EXTRACTED: No sales reported.

COMB: Practically no supplies on market.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by rail, 1 car Ariz.; by truck 528 lbs. Ill., 440 lbs. Wis.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand moderate, market firm. Sales to bakers and other large users - CENTRALWESTERN, White Clover, few available lots 14-14½¢; 5-lb. pails White Clover few available lots 75¢-\$1.00 per pail.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paid 41½-43½¢ per lb. delivered Chicago for few available lots that were offered.

CLEVELAND: Arrivals: extracted 15,000 lbs. Mich., 15,600 lbs. bottled Midwestern.

Supplies moderate. Demand good, market about steady. Prices adjusted in accordance with OPA regulations.

EXTRACTED: Sales by bottlers to wholesalers - MIDWESTERN, White Clover 12, 1-lb. jars \$2.25-2.26. Sales by wholesalers to retailers - \$2.65-2.75.

DENVER: Receipts: extracted, Colo. approximately 60,000 lbs.; comb, none; beeswax, 300 lbs. Demand fairly good, market steady. Sales to jobbers and wholesale bakers -

EXTRACTED: COLORADO, Sweetclover-Alfalfa, White to Water White 60s \$8.50; case 12, 5-lb. glass jars \$9.40-9.50; case 24, 1-lb. glass \$4.60-4.72; 12, 8-oz. glass \$1.28.

BEESWAX: Demand moderate, market steady. Dealers offering 41½¢ per lb. for domestic crude.

DETROIT: Receipts: extracted 1 car Wis., 24,000 lbs. Wis., 19,000 lbs. Mich.

Supplies moderate. Demand good, market firm.

EXTRACTED: Sales by bottlers to chain stores and jobbers - 1-lb. jars, per dozen, White, MICHIGAN \$2.28-2.40; WISCONSIN \$2.50; 5-lb. tins 75-77¢; glass 80¢.

Sales by large receivers and other large buyers: MICHIGAN, 60s White 15 3/4¢.

KANSAS CITY: No receipts. No sales reported.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, extracted from Minn. 200, 60-lb. cans White Sweetclover; 125, 60-lb. cans Light Amber; beeswax 110 lbs.

EXTRACTED: Supplies light. Demand good, market steady. Sales to bakers, bakers' supply houses and confectioners - MINNESOTA, Light Amber to White \$8.70-8.90 per 60-lb. can. Sales to wholesale grocers - MINNESOTA, U. S. No. 1, Blended Clover 12, 5-lb. pails \$9.22-9.30; 6, 5-lb. jars \$4.61-4.65; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$5.00-5.15; 24, 16-oz. jars \$4.80; 24, 6-oz. jars \$1.95. Sales to retail grocers - MINNESOTA, 12, 5-lb. pails \$9.70-9.80; 6, 5-lb. jars \$4.35-4.90; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$5.30-5.45; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.40; 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.30.

COMB: MINNESOTA, White Clover in window cartons cellophane-wrapped, 14-15-oz. Sales to wholesale grocers - \$4.80; sales to retail grocers \$5.50.

BEESWAX: Supplies light. Demand good, market steady. Dealers paid 41½¢, f.o.b. Minneapolis, to beekeepers.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: by rail 370 cases Nevada; 225 cases Calif., 410 lbs. Fla., 98,600 lbs. origin not specified; by truck 235 cans and 1,100 lbs. N.Y. Offerings light. Market firm. Few sales.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers, bakers and manufacturers - White Orange 17-17½¢. NEVADA, White Sweetclover 16-17¢. NEW YORK, Mixed Flowers 14¢. FLORIDA, Tupelo, White 15¢. Imported: sales and nominal quotations - barrels and cans, Light Grades 12-14¢; Darker grades 12½-12¾¢.

BEESWAX: Arrivals: 8 bags N.Y., 10 bags Pa.; origin not specified 875 bags. No sales reported.

PHILADELPHIA: No arrivals reported. Most dealers temporarily off the market. No offerings. Practically no movement.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck extracted 2,040 lbs. bottled Midwestern.

COMB: No supplies.

EXTRACTED: Demand moderate, market slightly weaker. Brokers' sales to retailers - MICHIGAN, White, 12, 52-oz. jars \$4.65; 12, 16-oz. jars \$3.45. WESTERN, White No. 1, 60s 14¹/₂-14 3/4¢ per lb.

PORTLAND: Arrivals: by motor truck - 100, 60-lb. cans from Calif. Mixed Flowers. Supplies light, with demand very active and retailers' stocks fast being depleted; market firm, no change in prices.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots - OREGON, Mixed Flowers 12, 5-lb. cans \$11.60; 12, 2¹/₂-lb. glass jars \$5.50-5.60. CALIFORNIA, Mixed Flowers 12, 5-lb. cans \$10.80; bulk 15¢ per lb. IDAHO, Sweetclover-Alfalfa 12, 5-lb. cans \$11.60.

COMB: No supplies.

BEESEWAX: Demand moderate, no change in prices. Dealers paying 41-41¹/₂¢ per lb.

ST. LOUIS: Receipts very light. Demand slow, market nominally steady. No sales reported.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND, AND ALAMEDA: Receipts: by truck - Central California, none; Northern California, 143 cases White to Extra White Thistle.

EXTRACTED: The following quotations are from bottlers to wholesalers and other case lot buyers - CALIFORNIA, White Orange, Sage, Thistle, per doz: 10-lb. cans \$19.50, 5-lb. cans \$10.12-10.60; 5-lb. glass jars \$10.00-11.50; 2-lb. glass jars \$4.30-4.90; 1¹/₂-lb. glass jars \$3.50-3.75; 1-lb. glass jars \$2.45-2.50, few \$3.00; 12-oz. glass jars \$2.00-2.17; 8-oz. glass jars \$1.32-1.47.

SEATTLE: Receipts: by motor truck - Extracted 150, 60-lb. cans Idaho. Demand fair, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots - WASHINGTON, IDAHO and CALIFORNIA, Alfalfa-Sweetclover, Light to Extra Light Amber, 60-lb. cans \$9.15-10.00; 12, 5-lb. pails \$10.41-10.55; 24, 2¹/₂-lb. cans \$10.80; 24, 24-oz. jars \$7.35-8.00; 24, 20-oz. jars \$3.25-3.90; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.10-5.70; 24, 11-oz. jars \$5.70-6.10; 24, 8-oz. jars \$3.10-3.45; 12, 5-lb. jars and 6, 10-lb. jars \$10.50-11.60; Dark to Amber 60-lb. cans \$8.40-9.25. WASHINGTON, creamed honey 24, 14-oz. cups \$5.25; 24, 40-oz. cups \$12.00.

COMB: No supplies on the market.

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AMENDMENTS TO OPA HONEY PRICE CEILING ORDER LPR 275.

TITLE 32 - NATIONAL DEFENSE
CHAPTER XI - OFFICE OF PRICE ADMINISTRATION
PART 1351 - FOOD AND FOOD PRODUCTS OPA-1465
AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO MAXIMUM PRICE REGULATION NO. 275 - EXTRACTED HONEY

Inferior subdivision (b) of Section 1351.1319 (c) (1) (ii) is corrected and inferior subdivision (a) of Section 1351.1319 (c) (1) (ii) is amended; Section 1351.1318a is added; all to read as set forth below:

§ 1351.1319 Appendix A - Maximum prices for "bulk honey" and "packaged honey". (c) x x x (1) x x x

(ii)

(a) Cost increase for honey. The cost increase per pound for honey shall be the difference between 11.8¢ and the seller's "weighted average cost" per pound for honey purchased during the "base period."

The "weighted average cost" means the total dollars f.o.b. beekeeper's shipping point paid for honey purchased during the "base period" divided by the number of pounds of honey purchased during the "base period". In computing the "weighted average cost" that quantity of honey which was produced by the seller during the "base period" shall be deemed to have been purchased by him at a price of 5.6¢ per pound and that quantity of honey which was not purchased directly from the producer during the "base period" and for which reason an f.o.b. beekeeper's price cannot be calculated, shall be deemed to have been purchased at 5.6¢ per pound. Persons who made no purchases of honey during the "base period" shall adopt 5.6¢ as their "weighted average cost".

(b) Cost increase for transportation. The cost increase per pound for transportation shall be the difference, if any, between the figure obtained by dividing the total freight dollars paid for honey purchased during the "base period" by the total pounds of honey produced and purchased during the "base period", and the figure obtained by dividing the total freight dollars paid for honey purchased during the months of June, July and August, 1942 by the total pounds of honey produced and purchased during the months of June, July and August, 1942.

§ 1351.1318a Effective dates of amendments.

(a) Amendment No. 1 (§§1351.1318a, and 1351.1319 (c) (1) (ii)) to Maximum Price Regulation No. 275 shall become effective January 19, 1943.

(Pub. Laws 421 and 729, 77th Cong. D. O. 9250, 7 F. R. 7371)

Issued this 13th day of January, 1943.

AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO MAXIMUM PRICE REGULATION NO. 275 1/ - EXTRACTED HONEY

Section 1351.1313 is amended to read as set forth below:

§1351.1313 Records and Reports. (a) Every person who sells "packaged honey" or resells "bulk honey" covered by this regulation shall preserve for examination by the Office of Price Administration, for so long as the Emergency Price Control Act of 1942, as amended, remains in effect, all his existing records which were the basis for computations required by Section 1351.1319, Appendix A.

(b) Every person who resells "bulk honey" shall within 10 days after determining his maximum price for each kind, flavor, brand, and container, type and size, execute and file with the Office of Price Administration, two copies of forms No. 1-A, 1-B, and 1-C, which forms are obtainable at any District, State, Field, or Regional Office of the Office of Price Administration.

(c) Persons who sell "packaged honey" shall within 10 days after determining their maximum price for each kind, flavor, brand, and container, type and size, execute and file with the Office of Price Administration, two copies of forms No. 1-A, 1-B, and 1-C. Provided, That persons whose 1941 sales of "packaged honey" did not exceed 1,000 pounds or whose future annual sales are not reasonably calculated to exceed 1,000 pounds need not execute nor file such forms.

§1351.1318a Effective dates of amendments.

(b) Amendment No. 2 (§1351.1313 (a), (b) and (c)) to Maximum Price Regulation No. 275 shall become effective January 19, 1943.

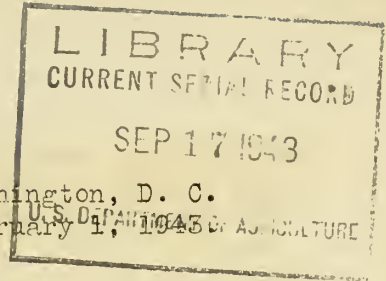
(Pub. Laws 421 and 729; 77th Cong.; D. O. 9250, 7 F.R.7371)

Issued this 13th day of January, 1943.

Leon Henders n Administrator

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Food Distribution Administration



Telephone- REpublic 4142,
Branch 2176.

Washington, D. C.
February 1, 1943

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - NO. 593

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS (Last half of January)

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted.)

SUMMARY

Except for the southern States extremely cold weather hit nearly all sections of the country, with some points reporting the lowest temperatures in recent years. Heavy snow fell over much of the Pacific Northwest and most of the northern States are still blanketed under considerable snow. Heavy frosts hit southward into the central and western Gulf Coast region and also into Southern California. Rains in Southern California and Arizona partially relieved drought conditions which have prevailed for several months. However, considerably more rain is needed in this section and it is felt that these rains may be too late to benefit many early honey-producing plants. Except in the far Southeast and far Southwest moisture conditions are considered good and honey plants now appear in favorable condition for next season. In the Plains Area some concern is being expressed over lighter plantings of sweetclover and some acreage now in sweetclover being given over to other crops. While the extent of colony losses in those sections of the country hit by the extreme cold weather and heavy snows is still problematical, for the country as a whole bees seem to be wintering fairly well with no abnormal losses except in small areas. Since food stores were light last fall considerable feeding is anticipated in many sections. However, with the long cold winter consumption of stores in many States has been below normal.

Just what expansion or contraction will be made in beekeeping operations this season is still problematical. Southern package bee producers report much heavier orders than usual for this season. On the other hand many beekeepers feel that labor shortages and difficulty in obtaining supplies will limit expansion. Some concern is being expressed over the possibility of obtaining sufficient sixty pound cans to handle a larger than normal production this season.

Estimates indicate that probably less than ten percent of the 1942 honey crop remains in producers hands. Very few carlots were sold during this period, and the number of sales of small lots is becoming increasingly scarce. Demand continues far in excess of available supplies. However, many bottlers and wholesalers feel that by rationing of supplies they will be able to make their present stocks last until 1943 honey comes in. Practically all sales of honey are at ceiling levels regardless of flavor or color. Demand for beeswax continues in excess of supplies, with practically all sales reported at ceiling levels.

CALIFORNIA POINTS:-

Southern California. Heavy frosts during the early part of this period with considerable heavy desert wind were followed by heavy rains over much of Southern California. While it is felt that this rainfall greatly benefited honey plants experience has shown that a good sage flow can seldom be expected when rains start so late. Many beekeepers are extremely pessimistic over the honey prospects for the 1943 season. In the hills bees remained fairly inactive, while in the valleys they are working on cover crops, gum and are making some gain from eucalyptus. Bees have been flying almost daily during this winter with the result that stores have been consumed rapidly and many colonies have the lightest food supplies in many years. In the citrus section many colonies have some brood. Only a few scattered lots of honey are being held by beekeepers. Present demand far exceeds available supplies. Sales by beekeepers ton lots or more per case of 120 pounds f.o.b. Southern California points - Orange, Extra White to White \$14.40; Mixed Flowers, Light Amber \$14.40. Beeswax, 41 1/2¢ per lb. to beekeepers.

Central California. Rainfall has been ample over most of this district, in some places running somewhat heavier than last year. Moisture and plant conditions both appear favorable at this time. Bees are gathering a little pollen from eucalyptus and winter shrubs. Almond buds are beginning to swell, and it is expected that some of the early varieties will be in bloom by the 15th of February. Inquiry for honey is running far ahead of available supplies. Demand for packaged honey by the retail trade has greatly increased, due to some extent to the shortage of butter and other spreads. Bottlers have reduced the size of containers, largely using 1-lb. jars. By rationing honey to retailers and refusing new accounts most bottlers expect to make present stocks last until new

honey is available. Very few sales were reported delivered interior valley points- Alfalfa-Bean-Tarweed Light Amber 11¢ per lb.

Northern California. Rainfall was fairly general both in the Coastal and Valley regions. A heavy frost in the lower Sacramento Valley damaged some blooming plants and generally retarded plant growth. However, most plants appear to be in fairly good condition. Most colonies are about normal for this season with sufficient stores to carry them until spring, although a little feeding will be necessary in many yards. While broodrearing has been somewhat retarded, queens in a few yards have begun laying in a limited way. Bees are obtaining some pollen from chickweed, mistletoe, incense cedar, and manzanita. Movement of bees to deciduous orchards has been practically completed. Producers have little or no honey to offer. Sales by producers, per lb., ton lots or more, delivered Bay Cities by truck - White Alfalfa-Thistle 12¢. Delivered interior valley points - Thistle, Extra Light Amber 12¢; Mixed Flowers, Light Amber 11½¢, Amber 10¢. Beeswax, per lb. 41½¢ cash, 43½¢ in trade.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST:

West of Cascades. Temperatures were unusually low for this section of the country, with the heaviest snowfall in Western Oregon since 1937 and the worst in the Puget Sound area in about twenty years. Some land erosion was reported in the higher altitudes as higher temperatures and warm rains melted the snows. No bee flights were made during this period. Bees appear to be wintering fairly well in most sections, but some feeding will be necessary due to lack of stores.

East of Cascades. Temperatures dropped below zero during much of this period, with the snowfall which ran from six to twelve inches over most of the area. Ample moisture and a good snow cover should insure yields of early bee pasture. In all sections of the Pacific Northwest honey is closely cleaned up with demand running far ahead of available supplies. No sales were reported.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION:

Freakish weather prevailed over most of the Intermountain area. During the early part of the period mild temperatures were followed by a short period of extremely cold weather. This cold lasted only a few days except in the more northern portions of the region. On the western slope of Colorado moisture is still somewhat deficient, while in most other sections of the Intermountain Region moisture conditions are favorable. Bees are apparently wintering well, with little damage being noted from the cold spell. Apparently no great amount of honey remains in beekeepers' hands, and most sales reported were on relatively small lots. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted Clover-Alfalfa, Light Amber to White, carlots 12¢; case to ton lots mostly 12¢, with a few high as 13 3/4¢ and low as 11½¢; single 60s 12-13¢, mostly 12-12½¢, with a few high as 15¢; 5-lb. pails 12-14½¢, mostly 13-14¢, a few higher. Details by States follow:

Colorado. Most sections of Colorado experienced a short cold wave during this period. However, temperatures were mild both at the beginning and close of the period so bees apparently have not suffered. In the western part of the State moisture is still somewhat deficient. In the northeastern part of the State high winds caused some drifting of soil and damage to plants, with some sections reporting considerable drying of the soil.

Wyoming. Bees have wintered well so far. A cold snap with temperatures considerably below zero did little damage. While snowfall is now somewhat below normal in most sections soil moisture is very good. Heavier than normal winds prevailed over much of Wyoming during this period.

Montana. Low temperatures, with heavy snows and considerable wind, prevailed during this period. In the southern part of the State most roads are closed and beekeepers have been unable to inspect yards.

Idaho. Much of southern Idaho experienced sub-zero temperatures during this period followed by a sharp rise in temperatures which melted the snow and in some sections of the State brought considerable rain. Estimates indicate that only 5-10 percent of the honey crop remains in beekeepers' hands.

Utah. Most of this period has been mild, although there were a few days of zero and sub-zero weather. There is little snow in the valleys. However, as a whole moisture conditions appear fairly good. Bees are apparently in fairly good condition.

Nevada. Heavy rains throughout western and northern Nevada during this period have aided range plants materially. Heavy snowfall occurred in the mountain areas. Temperatures have been generally mild and bees are wintering well.

ARIZONA:

In most sections of southern Arizona the weather continues very dry. In the eastern part of the State where unusual drought conditions have prevailed for several months considerable rain fell during this period which has helped plants but much more is needed. Bees are obtaining considerable pollen from mistletoe and spruce. Cottonwood is beginning to bud. In some sections where there was enough moisture filaree is coming up well, but in many sections it was largely destroyed by dry weather. Sales per lb. f.o.b. extracted Mesquite carlots White

12¢, single 60s Light Amber 11½¢; Alfalfa single 60s dark 10¢; Alfalfa-Mesquite small pails 13¢, glass jars 17½¢.

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- continued -

SOUTHWESTERN STATES:

Northeast Texas. Weather has been generally favorable in most sections. Bees have gathered some pollen from white elm, but blooming of cedar and elm has been delayed somewhat. Sweetclover and horsemint plants are making favorable growth for this early in the season. In general bees are in fairly good condition, although some are short of stores and are being fed. In isolated instances some starvation of colonies has been reported. A few colonies have begun broodrearing although they have started considerably later than usual. Some bees are being moved to Bowie County which has apparently had very few bees in previous seasons. Some beekeepers are planning considerable increase in number of colonies for the coming season.

Southeastern Texas. Most of January was unusually cold for this section of the country. Bees have been active only on a few warm days. Many colonies are short on stores. Little brood was produced last fall with the result that many hives contain only old bees which are now rapidly dying off. In some sections all tender vegetation was killed by a hard freeze which will cause considerable delay in the blooming of early plants. A fair amount of rainfall has added to soil moisture.

Southwestern Texas. Bees are wintering well although some colonies are getting very light in stores. Recent rains should help spring plants.

New Mexico. In the Mesilla Valley weather has been a little warmer, and bees have been able to fly on many afternoons although wind has prevented flights at times.

Arkansas. Very few days were warm enough to permit bee flights. A fairly good supply of rainfall has put honey plants in good condition.

Oklahoma. The coldest weather of the season prevailed over most of the State during this period. However, no damage to bees was reported and colony conditions are generally favorable.

PLAINS AREA:

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. The weather continues unusually cold and some winter losses are expected. The heavy snowfall should benefit plants as a covering now and later as a source of moisture. Very little honey remains in the hands of producers. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted Sweetclover, carlots 12¢. Comb honey No. 1 few sales \$4.80 per case.

Iowa. The weather has been cold during most of this period, with considerable sub-zero temperature. Bees in cellars are apparently wintering well but it seems probable there will be some loss among colonies wintered in the open. There has been very little snow during this period, but considerable ice from thawing. Offerings of honey have been rather light, with some beekeepers reporting difficulty in obtaining packages. However, demand has been fairly good at ceiling prices. Sales per lb. f.o.b. extracted Clover case to ton lots 11½-12¢, mostly 12¢. Beeswax mostly at ceiling prices of 41½¢ per lb. cash, and 43½¢ in trade.

Nebraska. Alternate mild weather and severe cold, with record low temperatures in some sections of the State, prevailed during this period. Bees in cellars are wintering well, but some concern is felt for colonies being wintered in the open especially since high winds accompanied some of the cold weather and at times there was little snow cover. Reports so far indicate little increase in number of colonies is expected next season, although orders are being placed for package bees for replacement of losses. Many beekeepers are sold out of honey, with wholesalers and grocers unable to obtain enough honey locally to meet their demand. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted Sweetclover case to ton lots 12¢, single 60s 12-13½¢, small pails 15¢. Beeswax, country run 43½¢ per lb. in trade.

Kansas. Several days of sub-zero weather apparently did little damage to bees. Moisture is normal or better in most sections of the State and prospects for honey plants appear good. Demand continues good for honey, but very little is available. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted Sweetclover single 60s 11¢.

Missouri. Temperatures were extremely variable, running from considerably below zero to warm spring-like days. Bees so far have wintered fairly well although it is expected that these sub-zero temperatures may have killed some of the weaker colonies. In most sections of the State little snow has fallen but there has been considerable rain and soil moisture conditions are generally good. While demand for honey has been fairly good, few sales were reported. Sales f.o.b. per lb., extracted, Fall Flowers Light Amber case to ton lots 12¢, small pails and glass jars 13¢. Beeswax country run yellow 41-41½¢ per lb.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES:

Michigan. Heavy snowfalls and cold temperatures have kept bees confined over all of Michigan. In most sections a good flight is needed. It is generally felt that bees have wintered fairly well except in some cases where outdoor wintered colonies were not adequately protected. Demand for honey far exceeds the available supply. Sales f.o.b. extracted White Clover all sales reported at ceiling of 12¢ per lb. Beeswax crude yellow 41½¢ per lb.

Wisconsin. Weather continues cold, with a heavy blanket of snow over most of this State. In the extreme southern portion of the State bees made a short flight toward the end of the month, but in most other sections they have been confined since the latter part of November. Many colonies are showing signs of extreme distress and some beekeepers report a portion of their colonies have already died. It is generally felt that honey plants should be in an ideal condition, with moisture prospects unusually good. Very little honey is available and only small lot sales were reported with single 60s of extracted Clover at 12-15¢, mostly around 12¢ per lb., and small pails 15-16¢ per lb.

Minnesota. Extremely cold weather and deep snows have kept bees confined for several weeks. Bees are badly in need of a flight and due to the blocked condition of the roads in many sections beekeepers are unable to determine just how their bees are wintering, but it is felt that losses may be fairly heavy among outdoor wintered bees although hives which were placed in the collars are quiet and apparently in good shape. Generally speaking available supplies of honey are insufficient to meet local demand. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted Basswood-Clover case to ton lots 12-12½¢, single 60s 13-14¢, small pails 14-15¢. Beeswax country run crude 41½¢ per lb.

Ohio. In northern Ohio cold weather and snow have kept bees confined and they are badly in need of a flight. Some beekeepers report heavier than normal losses during the past winter, due to confinement and light stores. In the southern part of the State temperatures moderated toward the end of the period and bees were able to fly. In this section bees have wintered somewhat better than in the northern part of the State and winter losses are not expected to be heavy. Some spring feeding will be necessary in many yards. Orders of package bees have been fairly heavy for replacements, but it is expected that there will be little expansion in operations next season, due to difficulty in obtaining supplies and labor. Large lots of honey are quite closely cleaned up. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted Clover case to ton lots mostly 12¢, small pails 14½¢. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb. to beekeepers.

Indiana. In most sections of the State bees had a good flight toward the end of January. This was the first in several weeks. While many dead bees were taken from some of the hives, colonies in general appear to be wintering very well. It is expected, however, that many will be weak before spring, due to light stores. In most sections the ground is still covered with a good blanket of snow. Honey is quite closely cleaned up and too few sales were reported to establish a market.

Illinois. While cold weather prevailed during most of this period, bees in most sections of the State were able to make short flights during the period of the 21st to 24th. Some loss from starvation has already been reported and it is expected that winter losses will be somewhat heavier than in either 1941 or 1942. Considerable early spring feeding is anticipated. Snow has protected plant growth and moisture conditions now appear very favorable for next season. Very few small lot sales were reported, with case to ton lots extracted White Clover at 12¢ per lb. and some single 60s Dark Amber at 10¢. Beeswax 41½¢ cash, and 43½¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Kentucky. The early part of the period had excessive rainfall followed by one day warm enough for bees to fly. This was followed by several days of cold weather with light scattered snows. Toward the end of the period temperatures moderated sufficiently for bees to make extensive flights. Examination of hives show a good supply of vigorous young bees provided in most cases with ample stores. A few colonies will require early feeding. So far honey plants appear to be in very good condition. Orders for package bees indicate that a moderate expansion in operations may take place next season. While demand for honey continues good very little is available for sale. Beeswax sold at 41¢ per lb. cash and 43¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. beekeepers.

NORTHEASTERN STATES:

New York. In most sections of the State, especially in northern New York, low temperatures have kept bees confined since mid-November. Heavier than normal winter losses are expected, due to confinement and inability of bees to change position in their hives. In the southern part of the State bees attempted to fly on one or two days when temperatures were only slightly above freezing with the result that many were unable to return to their hives. While fairly heavy orders for package bees are being placed to cover losses, little expansion is expected for the State as a whole. Offerings of honey have been rather light. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted White Clover case to ton lots 12-14¢, mostly 12¢, single 60s mostly reported around 15¢; Buckwheat case to ton lots 12¢ with cans furnished and 11¢ with cans returned; Goldenrod-Buckwheat blend small pails 12.6¢. Comb few sales \$4.00 per case. Beeswax 41½-42½¢ per lb. cash, and 43½¢ per lb. in trade.

Vermont. The weather continues cold, with a good snow cover on the ground. Bees have not had a good flight since fall, but seem to be wintering fairly well. Honey is quite closely cleaned up, with a very good demand. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted Clover small pails 15¢, glass jars 17¢.

New Jersey. Weather has been reasonably mild and bees have wintered fairly well, although many colonies are somewhat short in stores and some spring feeding will be necessary. Bees have had frequent flights and in many yards the clusters

consist of a fairly large proportion of young bees. Demand for honey continues good but very little local honey is available. Sales f.o.b. Clover-Sunac small pails and glass jars 21¢ per lb. Comb Light Amber Mixed Flowers \$4.80 per case.

Pennsylvania. Bees have had a couple of flights during the latter part of January. In some sections of the State there has been a fairly good snow cover which has largely been melted, while in other sections the ground has been frozen deeply with little or no snow cover to protect clover plants for next season. Apparently little heaving of clover plants has occurred, but alternate freezing and thawing might cause considerable damage at this time. Bees are apparently wintering well and most colonies seem to be in fairly good condition. It is expected that some spring feeding may be necessary in many yards. Demand for honey continues good, but supplies are unusually light and no sales were reported. A few sales of wax were reported at 41½¢ on country run yellow, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES:

Maryland. Much of this period was warm enough to permit bees to make long flights and they now are in fairly good shape. There were a few cold days but temperatures were not sufficiently low to injure the bees. There was considerable rain during the early part of this period, with snow toward the end, so that plants should be in unusually good condition.

West Virginia. In the eastern part of the State/seen to be wintering well with very few dead or extremely weak colonies. On the other hand, in the western part of the State it is expected that colony strength will be rather weak next spring especially where stores were light and feeding not resorted to.

Virginia. Considerable warm weather during this period has permitted frequent flights. In the Tidewater section bees have gathered a little pollen and many colonies are building up brood nests. In the extreme northern part of the State there have been one or two high and rather destructive winds. For the State as a whole bees are wintering well provided they were of average colony strength last fall. Very few sales were reported, with some Light Clover-Thistle in small pails at 11 2/3¢ per lb., and cut comb honey at \$1.80 per dozen. Beeswax sold in a limited way at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash and 43½¢ in trade.

North Carolina. Bees are apparently wintering well so far. In the south coastal area maple and tag alder are blooming, with some pollen being gathered from maple as early as the 15th. This is doubtless an early spring-like period and more cold weather can be expected.

SOUTHEASTERN STATES:

Georgia. With mild weather during most of this period bees have been able to gather considerable pollen from elm and maple, especially in south Georgia. Broodrearing has started, with many colonies having two to four frames of brood, a little of which has been sealed. Most colonies have sufficient stores to carry them through to the next honey gathering season. Further rains have fallen and moisture conditions are good in both the soil and sub-soil. Plant conditions appear to be about normal, with favorable indications for either package bee or honey production. While demand for honey has been a little lighter, very little is available and it is expected that all will be cleaned up before the new crop is available.

Florida. Weather has been generally good for bee activity. In the southern portion of the State they have been storing a little honey and considerable pollen, principally from maple, with some from citrus, Spanish needle, pennyroyal, and palmetto in those areas where the woods were burned over during the summer of 1942. Most of the State is still badly in need of rainfall and unless moisture conditions improve greatly it is feared the nectar flow may be short this spring. In some sections of the State heavy showers during the last few days of the month helped some but considerable more rain is needed. Very little honey is left on hand and all sales reported were at ceiling levels of 12¢ per lb., with beeswax at 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Alabama and Mississippi. A cold wave of January 20 reached southward to the Gulf coast. Weather had moderated by the 22nd and the rest of this period was unusually mild. Bees have gathered some pollen from elm and early blooming shrubs, but not enough to maintain normal broodrearing so that bees must draw on their reserves which were rather short this season. Queens have started laying and a few hives have sealed brood. Package orders continue to come in at a heavier rate than in any recent year.

Louisiana. A severe freeze covered most of the State on January 20. Prior to this date and also soon after bees gathered pollen freely on fair days. Broodrearing is increasing rapidly. While consumption of stores has not been excessive it is expected that it will soon become heavier. Winter losses so far have been very light with most losses due to robbing. In northern Louisiana recent heavy rains have put young honey plants in excellent condition. In this section pollen from pine is now available and bees are storing heavily when weather permits. As a whole, beekeepers are optimistic over the outlook for this coming season and some expect to increase the number of colonies considerably.

Orders for package bees have been much heavier than normal and one large producer tells of having refused orders for thousands of packages with capacity filled up to May 15. Demand for honey has been rather light but almost none remains in the hands of producers and no sales were reported.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the last of January. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 50-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: Arrivals: extracted 100, 60-lb. cans N.Y.

COMB: No supplies on market. No sales reported.

EXTRACTED: No local sales reported. No brokers sales.

CHICAGO: No rail receipts reported; by truck 420 lbs. Ill.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand moderate, market firm. Sales to bakers and other large users - ARIZONA, Alfalfa Light Amber, few available lots 14 1/8-14 1/4¢. CENTRALWESTERN, White Clover, no supplies on market.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paid 41 1/2-43 1/2¢ per lb. delivered Chicago for few available lots that were offered.

CLEVELAND: Arrivals: extracted none, bottled 650 cases Midwestern. Supplies very light. Demand good. Too few sales to establish market. Several bottlers withdrawn from market.

EXTRACTED: Sales by wholesalers to retailers - MICHIGAN, 2 dozen, 1-lb. jars \$2.75-3.02¢.

DENVER: Receipts: extracted 46,000 lbs. Colo., 30,000 lbs. Utah; comb none.

EXTRACTED: Demand fairly good, market slightly stronger. Sales to jobbers, wholesale bakers and chain stores - INTERMOUNTAIN REGION, White to Water White Alfalfa-Sweetclover, 60s \$8.50-8.80; 12, 5-lb. cans \$9.50-10.30, glass \$10.30-10.55, 12, 2 1/2-lb. glass jars \$5.40-6.90; 24, 1 1/2-lb. glass \$6.00-6.25.

BEESWAX: Receipts: approximately 6,300 lbs. Demand moderate, market steady. Local dealers paying 41 1/2¢ per lb. for domestic crude.

DETROIT: Receipts: extracted 14,400 lbs. Mich., 7,200 lbs. Ohio. Supplies light. Demand good, market firm at ceiling prices.

EXTRACTED: Sales by bottlers to chain stores and jobbers- 1-lb. jars, per doz. White: MICHIGAN, \$2.28-2.40; OHIO, \$2.50.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, extracted from Minn., 315, 60-lb. cans White Mixed Clover; 50, 60-lb. cans Amber.

EXTRACTED: Supplies light. Demand good, market steady. Sales to bakers, baker supply houses and confectioners- MINNESOTA, Light Amber to White \$8.70-8.90 per can. Sales to wholesale grocers - MINNESOTA, U. S. No. 1 Blended Clover 12, 5-lb. pails \$9.22-9.30; 6, 5-lb. jars \$4.61-4.65; 12, 2 1/2-lb. jars \$5.00-5.15; 24, 16-oz. jars \$4.80; 24, 6-oz. jars \$1.95. Sales to retail grocers - MINNESOTA, 12, 5-lb. pails \$9.70-9.80; 6, 5-lb. jars \$4.85-4.90; 12, 2 1/2-lb. jars \$5.30-5.45; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.40; 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.30.

COMB: Sales to wholesale grocers - MINNESOTA, White Clover in window cartons cellophane-wrapped: MINNESOTA, 14-15-oz. \$4.80; to retail grocers \$5.50.

BEESWAX: Supplies light. Demand good, market steady.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: by rail 67,800 lbs. Ida., 888 lbs. Pa., 4,000 lbs. Ga.; 120,000 lb., 200 bbls., 1 car origin not specified. Demand moderate, market firm, few sales.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers, bakers and manufacturers - CALIFORNIA, White Orange 17 1/2-18¢. NEVADA, White Sweetclover 16-17¢. NEW YORK, Mixed Flowers 14¢; Buckwheat 13 1/2¢. FLORIDA, White Tupelo 15-16¢. Imported, barrels and cans, Light 13-14 1/2¢.

BEESWAX: 19,054 lbs. origin not specified. Supplies very light. Demand moderate, prices ceiling. Quotations by importers- SOUTH AMERICA and MEXICO, Yellow 44 3/4¢. WEST INDIES and CENTRAL AMERICA 41 1/2¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Arrivals: by rail 65,088 lbs. Wis.; by truck 3,000 lbs. origin not known. Dealers temporarily off market, practically no offerings, no prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck, extracted 7,000 lbs. East Central; 8,562 lbs. bottled Midwestern.

COMB: No supplies.

EXTRACTED: Offerings very light. Demand slow, market steady. Brokers' sales to retailers - MICHIGAN, White, 12, 32-oz. jars \$4.65; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.45.

NEW YORK, PENNSYLVANIA and OHIO, White 5-lb. pails 75-80¢.

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PORTLAND: Arrivals: by motor truck, from California 150 cases 24, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. cans; 40 cases 24, 1-lb. glass jars, 649 cases 12, 2-lb. glass jars; from Oregon, 165 cases 24, 8-oz. glass jars. Market is firm, with supplies light under good demand.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots - OREGON, Mixed Flowers 12, 5-lb. cans \$11.00-11.60; 12, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. glass jars \$5.50-5.60; 12, 24-oz. \$3.75; 24, 8-oz. \$3.15. CALIFORNIA, Mixed Flowers 12, 5-lb. cans \$11.60.

COMB: No supplies.

BEESEWAX: Receipts: 400 lbs. Demand moderate. Dealers paying 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb.

ST. LOUIS: Receipts very light. Demand light, market steady. Sales by commission merchants to retailers -

COMB: No sales reported.

EXTRACTED: ILLINOIS, Mixed Flowers, Light Amber and Amber, 60-lb. tins few 15¢ lb.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND AND ALAMEDA: Receipts: by truck- Central California, none; Northern California, 142 cases White Alfalfa Thistle.

EXTRACTED: The following quotations are from bottlers to wholesalers and other case lot buyers - CALIFORNIA, White Orange, Sage, Thistle, per doz: 5-lb. cans \$10.12-10.80; 5-lb. glass jars \$10.00-11.50; 2-lb. glass jars \$4.30-4.90; 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. glass jars \$3.50-3.75; 1-lb. glass jars \$2.45-2.50, few \$3.00; 12-oz. glass jars \$2.00-2.17; 8-oz. glass jars \$1.32-1.47.

BEESEWAX: No offerings.

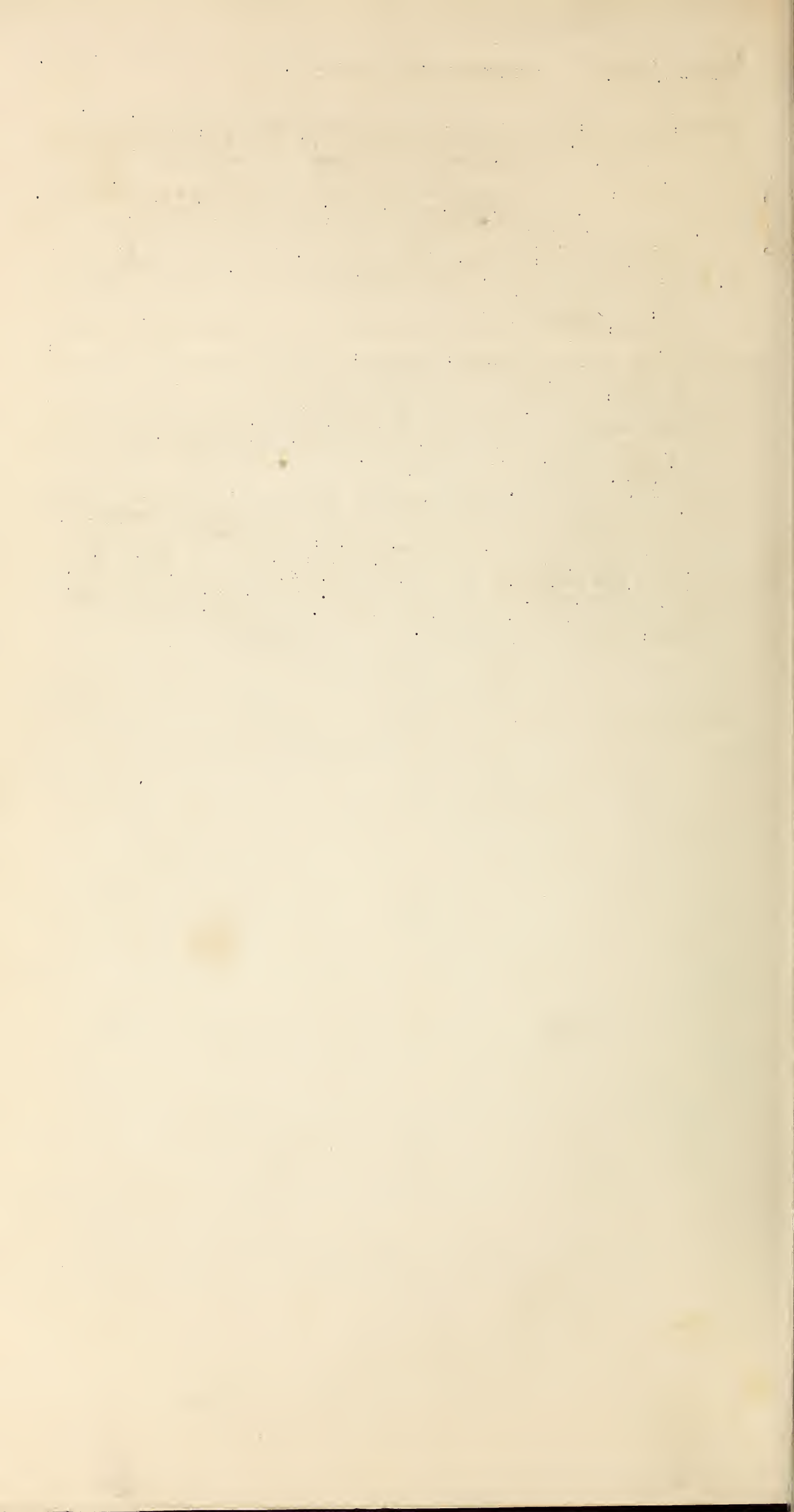
SEATTLE: No receipts by motor truck reported. Demand good, market steady to firm

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots - WASHINGTON, IDAHO and CALIFORNIA, Alfalfa-Sweetclover, Light to Extra Light Amber, 60-lb. cans \$9.15-10.00; 12, 5-lb. pails \$10.41-10.65; 24, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. cans \$10.80; 24, 24-oz. jars \$7.35-8.00; 24, 20-oz. jars \$6.25-6.90; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.10-5.70; 24, 11-oz. jars \$3.70-4.10; 24, 8-oz. jars \$3.10-3.45; 12, 5-lb. jars and 6, 10-lb. jars \$10.50-11.60; Dark to Amber 60-lb. cans \$8.40-9.25. WASHINGTON, creamed honey 24, 14-oz. cups \$5.25; 24, 40-oz. cups \$13.86.

COMB: No supplies on the market.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Food Distribution Administration

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Telephone- REpublic 4142,
Branch 2176.Washington, D. C.
February 15, 1943.SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - NO. 594INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS (First half of February)

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted.)

SUMMARY

The first week of February was abnormally warm in practically all sections of the country, especially in the States between the Appalachian and Rocky Mountains. The weather over most of the northern area turned colder toward the middle of February and the cold extended deep into the South, especially the southeast. Considerable rain fell in nearly all sections except the extreme southeast. A study of rainfall charts for the period of November through January shows considerably heavier than normal precipitation in the Western states except Southern California and Arizona, the Intermountain States, most of the North Central and Northeastern States and some of the Southeastern States. On the other hand, the Plains Area, the southwest and the extreme southeast had considerably lighter than normal precipitation. A fairly heavy blanket of snow still covers the northern tier of States from the Atlantic to the Pacific and extends well southward in both the Rockies and Sierra Nevada Mountains. For the country as a whole both moisture and plant conditions appear favorable for a good honey flow this season, provided weather continues near normal. In the Intermountain and northern tier of States bees continue largely inactive although in most sections of the country at least short flights were made during the early part of February. In the South the earliest of spring flowers are coming on and bees have been able to obtain considerable pollen and in some places small amounts of nectar. In those States broodrearing is beginning. In nearly all sections where hive activity has begun some feeding has been necessary and in those States where bees are still dormant many colonies are light in stores and spring feeding will be required. However, actual winter losses from starvation have been rather light so far. Southern package bee and queen producers report that orders continue to come in at an abnormally heavy rate. Some are booked to capacity until the middle of May, and many have had to turn down orders.

Demand for honey continues far in excess of available supplies in all sections of the country. Very few carlot sales were reported. In many sections honey supplies are so closely cleaned up that local retailers are unable to stock their shelves. Practically all sales were made at ceiling levels, regardless of flavor or color. Demand for beeswax also continues active at ceiling prices, with relatively few large lots available.

CALIFORNIA POINTS:-

Southern California. Heavy rains during the last few days of January and early February greatly improved honey prospects. Plants are responding very rapidly to this moisture following a long period of drought. Bees have made fairly good gains on warm days. In the valleys they have gathered considerable pollen from the orchards, cover crops, manzanita and wild shrubs. Buckbrush will soon be yielding heavy supplies of pollen. In the mountains broodrearing is beginning but pollen supplies have been rather light. Demand for honey continues active, with available supplies very light. Practically all honey in Southern California is now out of the beekeepers' hands and dealers' stock are exceptionally low. There have been a few sales of honey at the ceiling price of \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds, f.o.b. country points, for all flavors of honey of Amber grade or better. Beeswax is selling at ceiling levels of 41¢ per lb. cash, or 43¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. country points.

Imperial Valley. Good showers during late January and early February should improve prospects for desert bloom. The weather has been generally cool, although bees have flown during the middle of the day. Broodrearing has started with most hives showing about a half a frame of brood. Flax will soon be in bloom in about a week and will bloom for about a month. A few beekeepers plan to move bees to the mountains to take advantage of a flow from mesquite and catsclaw which has been stimulated by recent rains. While no sales were reported, quotations on Light Amber Alfalfa continue at ceiling levels of \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds, f.o.b. shipping point.

Central California. Scattered showers fell in both the coastal and valley regions during this period. In the San Joaquin Valley rainfall is somewhat below normal, but has been sufficient for spring plants which now appear about normal in growth. Cool weather has held back growth of many wild flowers and it is felt

the blooming season for most plants may be delayed a little. Heavy frosts damaged orange trees somewhat in some sections. Almond trees are just beginning to bloom. Almost no honey is being offered by beekeepers. On the other hand, demand from the retail trade for packaged honey has increased to such an extent that many bottlers are compelled to use smaller containers and only partially filling present orders. Sales by producers ton lots or more delivered Bay Cities by truck - Light Amber Mixed Flowers 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ -11 $\frac{1}{2}$. Beeswax 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Northern California. Considerable rain and fog have brought total moisture for this section considerably above normal for the season. Cloudy weather has kept bees confined much of the time, but when they were able to fly they have gathered some pollen from red wood, European elm, cyprus, Japanese quince, willow, and other early wild flowers and shrubs. Manzanita is blooming in the foothills, but weather has prevented bees from obtaining much from this source. Almonds are beginning to open. In general condition of plants is favorable although growth has been a little backward. Condition of bees is generally good with some colonies showing brood. Demand for honey is active. Sales by producers, ton lots or more, per lb., delivered Bay Cities via truck - Light Amber to White Thistle 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; delivered interior valley points - Amber to Extra Light Amber, Thistle 11-12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Mixed Flowers, Extra Light Amber 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, Amber to Light Amber 9-12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, mostly 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ -12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Clover, Extra Light Amber 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, Black to Amber cappings 7-9 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. Beeswax 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. delivered Bay Cities.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST:-

West of Cascades. This section had heavy rains and snows during this period. Rainfall in Western Oregon and Washington during the period November through January has been the heaviest on record. In Southwestern Oregon temperatures have been mild, but cloudy, damp weather has kept bees confined, while in Northwestern Oregon and Western Washington cool temperatures with almost continual cloudiness or rain have limited activity. The snow pack in both the Cascades and Coast Range is unusually heavy. Many colonies are suffering from lack of a good flight, and many are rather short of stores which will necessitate early feeding. In the Willamette Valley filberts are blooming, but bees have been able to gather but little pollen. Willows will soon bloom in sheltered areas. Indications now point to a good early flow from Scotch Broom. The acreage of vetch is somewhat lighter than normal due to the early wet fall and also due to the entrance of many farmers into war industries. Honey stocks are very light, with most supplies now in the hands of bottlers. A few small lots remain in the hands of producers with movement at ceiling levels.

East of Cascades. Cool temperatures have kept bees confined over most of this territory since early November. In some sections bees attempted a short flight when temperatures reached about 45 but a great many were unable to return to their hives. Beekeepers anticipate heavier than average winter losses. Some colonies which have been examined show a high proportion of dead bees although very few colonies have been found which were completely dead. Most of this area is blanketed with a good snow cover and moisture and plant conditions for the coming season appear quite favorable. Prospects are especially favorable for early sage brush. Very few sales of honey were reported, with single 60s at 14¢ per lb., and small pails 16-17 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION:-

The severe winter weather which prevailed during much of January over this area moderated during the first half of February and bees have been able to obtain a number of much needed flights. Except for the Western Slope of Colorado and a few rather limited plains areas, moisture prospects appear unusually good for next season with deep snows in the mountains which should provide a good supply of irrigation water. While beekeepers in many sections have not been able to examine their yards closely, where examination has been made bees appear to be wintering fairly well. Honey is quite closely cleaned up among producers and demand continues far in excess of available supplies. Beeswax is also quite closely cleaned up, with a good demand for such lots as remain in producers' hands. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted - Clover-Alfalfa, carlots 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, case to ton lots mostly 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, with some at 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ -13 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢, single 60s mostly 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. Beeswax, 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers. Details by States follow:-

Colorado. Snow and moisture are still deficient on the Western Slope, while in most other portions of the State snowfall has been ample - even above normal in some mountain sections - although in a few plains areas a little more moisture is needed. Winter weather continues over the eastern part of the State, but damage has not been excessive. There has been sufficient mild weather over most of the State for needed flights, and bees seem to be wintering well. On the Western Slope there is some question as to whether colonies have sufficient stores to carry them through until spring.

Wyoming. Moisture conditions are generally favorable over the State with heavy snows in the mountains, although portions of the plains areas are becoming a little dry. The winter as a whole has been quite severe, but bee losses do not appear to be excessive at this time. During the last period there were a number of days when bees could obtain good flights.

Montana. Weather during the latter part of January and early part of February was quite severe, with considerable snow. During the second week of February a Chinook melted much of the snow and bees were able to fly on one or two days. However, in some sections bees suffered from lack of sunshine to clear the frost and ice from the front of the hives and for ventilation.

Idaho. Deep snows in the mountains and watersheds should assure ample water for irrigation next season. While the winter has been more or less steadily cold, bees in most sections should have fared well since most colonies went into the winter with a large number of young bees and plentiful food stores. Some packed bees are uneasy and in need of a good flight. Demand for honey has been unusually good, with very limited supplies remaining in beekeepers hands.

Utah. The weather has been fairly mild, with bees able to fly on a number of days. Moisture prospects for next season are unusually good, with more than normal amount of snow in the mountains.

Nevada. Winter weather still prevails with heavy rains at the lower elevations and snows in the mountains. Moisture conditions are now very favorable.

ARIZONA:-

Moisture conditions have improved in southern Arizona, but more rain is needed to put plants in prime condition, especially in the Southeastern section of the State. In the Phoenix area bees are gathering some pollen from cottonwood. Filaree should be in blooming at the higher elevations around the 20th. Honey is quite closely cleaned up. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted - single 30s Mesquite 12¢, Amber Alfalfa 10¢; Alfalfa-Mesquite small pails 12-13¢, glass jars 17-18¢. Beeswax 41¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers with some Solar Yellow at 45¢ in trade.

SOUTHWESTERN STATES:-

East Texas. Most bees are in good condition with brood in all stages. Some colonies are short on stores. Orders for package bees and queens continue heavy with most of the present orders being turned down. Honey is moving well with the market about cleaned up. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted - Mixed Flowers small pails 15-16¢; 1-lb. glass jars 17-18¢.

Southeast Texas. The weather has been warmer. Colonies are showing some brood in one to three combs. Bees are gathering pollen from agarita and Elbow brush, but it is apparently been too dry for much nectar secretion.

Lower Rio Grande Valley. In general colonies are unusually weak in the Rio Grande Valley. Many are without stores and several commercial beekeepers are feeding. Broodrearing is beginning quite late, and brood is found on an average in only about two frames. The flow from Elbow brush is quite good and colonies located close to this source of nectar are making a small gain in stores despite colony weakness. Citrus is just beginning to bloom but it is now felt that little surplus will be made from this since most colonies are not yet ready for active nectar gathering. Very little honey remains in the hands of producers.

Southwest Texas. Temperatures have moderated somewhat and bees have been able to fly nearly every day. The ground is getting quite dry and more rain is needed to bring on early flowering plants. Many colonies are getting light in stores, and some beekeepers are already feeding.

New Mexico. Bees are wintering well in the upper Rio Grande Valley with the winter so far very mild. Some colonies show a little brood. Demand for honey continues exceptionally strong but the 1942 crop is about cleaned up.

Oklahoma. Weather was generally quite normal for this season. There were two short periods of cold, with temperatures close to zero. A good rain was general over the State and added needed moisture, although honey plants are not suffering from lack of moisture.

Arkansas. In the southern part of the State mild weather has permitted considerable bee activity. Pollen from maple has been plentiful and many colonies have already stored more pollen than they are usually able to obtain during the month of February. A little nectar is also available. Broodrearing is getting under way with a small amount emerging in most colonies.

PLAINS AREA:-

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. The weather in this section continues quite cold. While temperatures have moderated sufficiently on a few days for clusters to change location no flights have been reported. Apparently most colonies are wintering fairly well. It is expected that winter losses will occur from lack of stores and starvation rather than from severe weather. The extent of such winter losses is still problematical. A good blanket of snow continues to protect honey plants. Apparently no large lots of honey remain in this section. Sales f.o.b. beeswax 45¢ per lb. in trade.

Iowa. Weather moderated sufficiently over most of the State to remove most of the ice and snow, and on a number of days temperatures were high enough for bees to fly. Such examinations of bee yards as have been made indicate that wintering has been about normal, with very few dead colonies reported. Con-

siderable feeding will likely be necessary, due to colonies going into the winter with light stores. Very little honey is available. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted White Sweetclover, case to ton lots 12¢.

Kansas. The winter so far has been about normal in most sections of the State and bees appear to be in good condition, although honey stores are short in many hives and early feeding may be necessary. Some colonies are showing a little brood. There is plenty of moisture and honey plants appear in better than normal condition. Some decrease in the sweetclover acreage is anticipated, as the ground will be used for other crops.

Nebraska. Periods of extremely mild weather permitted a number of good flights. Rain fell over the eastern portion of the State and honey plants are generally in fair condition. In the western plains section of the State there is some deficiency in moisture and high winds with a lack of snow cover have caused winter killing of some plants. In general bees have wintered fairly well with comparatively light losses, but considerable early feeding will be necessary in some yards.

Missouri. Weather has permitted almost daily flights during this period. There was very little rain or snow over most sections of the State, but wind resulted in loss of some bees which were unable to return to their hives. A very little pollen is now coming in. In general bees are in fairly good condition although some are light in stores. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted - Case to ton lots 12¢, single 60s few 15¢, small pails few 18¢.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES:-

Michigan. Temperatures moderated somewhat during the early part of February. Bees appeared at the entrances of their hives but it was not warm enough for them to fly far. However, it gave bees a chance to clean house and adjust the cluster. The northern part of the State still has a deep snow cover. Such reports as come in from yards which have been inspected indicate a very light loss from starvation. Colonies are wintering better than was expected considering the fact that many were not too strong last fall and stores as a whole were lighter than normal. Demand for honey continues far in excess of supplies. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted - Clover case to ton lots 12¢, 1-lb. glass jars few 21¢. Beeswax 40-41¢, mostly 41¢ per lb., f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Wisconsin. Temperatures continue too low for any extended flights, although in some sections bees were able to fly a short distance from the hives on one or two occasions. Most colonies examined have wintered well, and taken as a whole have sufficient food stores to last for some time. The snow cover is still heavy, and honey plants should come through the winter in unusually good condition. In most sections of the State supplies of honey are insufficient to even meet the local demand, and in many stores the shelves are bare of honey. No large lot sales were reported. Beeswax - 41¢-42¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Minnesota. A good blanket of snow still covers most of the State. Temperatures moderated somewhat, but in most sections bees are still confined, although they had a short flight in the southern part of the State. Such reports as have come in indicate that bees are wintering fairly well although some feeding may be necessary. Probably less than five percent of the 1942 honey crop remains in beekeepers' hands. No sales were reported.

Ohio. A number of flights early in the month put bees in fairly good condition. In the northern part of the State, where winter stores were rather light last fall, considerable winter loss is anticipated. In the southern portion bees seem to be wintering very well. In most sections the ice and snow has melted and honey plants appear to be in fairly good condition for next season with generally good moisture conditions. No large lot sales were reported. Sales f.o.b. per lb., small lots- Sweetclover Light Amber, case to ton lots 12¢, small pails 14¢.

Indiana. Snow has mostly disappeared and milder temperatures permitted extended flights on a number of days. Bees are in good condition although some colonies are already out of stores and many others will need early feeding. Nectar producing plants appear good. Honey is practically all out of beekeepers' hands. Sales f.o.b. per lb. Clover Light Amber small pails few sales 16¢.

Illinois. In the northern part of the State the ground is still well covered with snow and temperatures have been a little too low for safe flights. Some bees have attempted flights and have been unable to return to their hives. In the southern portion of the State snow is pretty well gone and bees have flown on a number of days. So far winter losses appear to be about normal, although some additional loss from starvation may be expected. For the State as a whole considerable spring feeding will likely be necessary. Moisture conditions are good and honey plants appear in fairly good condition. No large lot sales of honey were reported. Beeswax- yellow 41¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Kentucky. Northern Kentucky had the heaviest snowfall of the season the first few days of this period. Warmer weather and rain melted this and bees were able to fly again by the 8th and gather small amounts of pollen from maple and elm. Losses from starvation have been light although feeding will likely be necessary in some yards. While moisture conditions are about normal, much of the vegetation has a rather brown, backward appearance. Demand for honey continues active but little is available and no sales were reported.

NORTHEASTERN STATES:-

New York. Temperatures have moderated somewhat. Most of the State is still covered with a good blanket of snow, and temperatures have been too low for bees to make any extended flights. Early in the month a few bright, sunny days tempted bees from their hives, but many were unable to return. In the northern part of the State bees have not had a good flight since November, with the result that many colonies are becoming extremely restless and some losses may be expected. Moisture and plant conditions now appear better than normal for next season. Demand for honey continues active, with most packers and buyers unable to find sufficient to take care of their needs. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted - White Clover case to ten lots 12-14¢, single 60s¢ mostly 14¢, 5-lb. pails 16¢, 1-lb. glass jars 21¢-23¢; Buckwheat dark, case to ten lots 11¢ with cans returned, small pails Amber 15¢. Beeswax 41¢ cash and 43¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. beekeepers.

Vermont. Weather has moderated some, with temperatures running a little above freezing on many days. Both bees and honey plants appear to be wintering well. The market continues active, but very little honey is available. Sales f.o.b. extracted - Clover small pails 15¢ per lb., 1-lb. glass jars 17¢.

New Jersey. Mild temperatures prevailed during much of this period, with a number of days on which bees could fly extensively. Most colonies appear in good condition, although some feeding will be necessary during the spring build-up period. Demand for honey continues good, with very little available. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted - Clover-Sumac in small pails and glass jars 22¢; Mixed Flowers in glass jars 20¢. One, Clover-Sumac few sales \$5.50 per case. Beeswax few small lots 41¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Pennsylvania. Considerable snow continues to blanket much of the mountain area of the State. In a number of sections bees had partial flights during the first few days of the month, but in the higher mountains many colonies have not flown since December. Prospects for next season's clover honey crop now appears very good, with moisture conditions better than normal. In the orchard districts inquiries for bees for pollination are more numerous than for a number of years. While no sales were reported quotations were made on small pails at 14-15¢ per lb. wholesale, with single 60s at 12-14¢ per lb.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES:-

Maryland. The snow and sleet which covered most of this area during the last week of January has melted, and much of the early part of February was wet and rainy. However, bees were able to obtain two or three good flights. Bees are in good condition and at present moisture conditions appear very favorable for this year's honey crop. Few sales f.o.b. Light Clover 1-lb. glass jars 24¢ each; bulk comb honey 1-lb. glass jars 27¢ each.

West Virginia. Weather has been favorable for bee activity, and some pollen has been gathered. Winter clusters are generally small in the western part of the State and some early feeding may be necessary.

Virginia. Cool temperatures and wet weather have permitted but a few short flights. When able to fly bees have gathered some pollen mostly from maple, while in the Tidewater section bees have been working to a limited extent on dandelion and chickweed. Broodrearing is beginning in the southern part of the State.

South Carolina. Weather during nearly all this period has been very favorable for bees. Most colonies now have some brood in two to three frames and a good many young bees are in evidence on combs in some hives. Pollen is available from some early spring shrubs and red maple. Demand for honey continues good, but beekeepers have largely sold out.

SOUTHEASTERN STATES:-

Georgia. Weather was mild during this entire period and bees were able to work almost every day. Pollen has been available from maple, alder and swamp huckleberry. In the coastal plains the pineapple pear is in full bloom, and some peach trees are beginning to bloom. Ti-ti has just started to bloom, but cooler weather has held it back somewhat. Broodrearing began very actively around the middle of January, but expansion of brood nests has been rather limited during this period. Young bees are beginning to emerge and colony condition is considered normal for this season. In north Georgia moisture conditions are very good, in fact excessive rainfall in some sections has flooded the river bottoms even into the southern part of the State. In south Georgia additional rainfall is needed to place nectar-bearing plants in best condition for a good spring flow.

Florida. In most sections of the State the weather has been seasonably warm, although in the northern part nights have been rather cool. In south Florida bees are being moved to the citrus groves. Colonies are building up from maple, willow, and early blooming shrubs and trees. All colonies have sealed brood, with the strongest broods now hatching bees. Orders for package bees are in the heaviest in many years. Available supplies of honey in beekeepers hands are very light with sales f.o.b. of extracted case to ten lots Amber-Ti-ti at 10¢ per lb.

Alabama. Bees have been active during most of this period bringing in pollen from elm, pears and yard flowers, and in some areas from plums. Supplies of pollen seem to be up to broodrearing requirements so far. Early spring feeding has begun. Most good colonies have from three to five frames of brood, with some already hatching. Over most of the State there has been sufficient rainfall to start spring honey plants. Honey is practically out of the hands of beekeepers. Sales f.o.b. per lb., extracted, Mixed Flowers single 60s 10¢, 10-lb. pails 15¢. Beeswax country run crude 40-41 1/2¢ per lb. f.o.b.

Mississippi. Bees have been actively gathering pollen and a little nectar. Maple and huckleberry are in full bloom, and Ti-ti is just beginning to bloom. Broodrearing is progressing rapidly, with some colonies containing five or more frames of brood. Winter losses have been almost negligible.

Louisiana. With mild weather during most of this period, bees have been quite active. Heavy supplies of pollen have been stored from swamp maple, willows, elm, and other early sources of supply. Broodrearing is being rapidly stimulated with many colonies showing several full frames of brood. Queenrearing is now under way on a small scale, but will be stepped-up rapidly. Present consumption of stores is heavy and in some yards feeding has been necessary. Most package bee shippers are already booked to capacity to as late as May 15 and many are turning down orders.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the middle of February. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: Arrivals: 1 car extracted from Iowa.

COMB: No supplies on market.

EXTRACTED: Local demand rather light, market strong. Few local brokers' sales to wholesale grocers and large retailers delivered basis - MIDWESTERN, White Sweetclover, 1-lb. glass jars \$3.19 per doz.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by truck, 1,544 lbs. Ill., 120 lbs. Wis.; no rail receipts reported.

EXTRACTED: Practically no supplies on market.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paid 41 1/2-43 1/2¢ per lb. delivered Chicago for few available lots that were offered.

CLEVELAND: No arrivals reported. No supplies on market. No sales reported.

DENVER: Receipts extracted 60,000 lbs. Colo. Demand good, market steady at ceiling level.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers, wholesale bakers and chain stores -

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION, White to Water White Alfalfa-Sweetclover, 60s \$8.50-8.80; 12, 5-lb. cans \$9.50-10.30, glass \$10.30-10.55, 12, 2 1/2-lb. glass jars \$5.70-6.90; 24, 1 1/4-lb. glass \$6.00-6.25.

BEESWAX: Nothing received. Demand moderate, market steady. Dealers offering f.o.b. Denver domestic crude 41 1/2¢ per lb.

DETROIT: Receipts: extracted 18,250 lbs. Mich., 8,400 lbs. Ohio. Supplies rather light. Demand good, market firm at ceilings.

EXTRACTED: Sales by bottlers to chain stores and jobbers - 1-lb. jars per dozen, White: OHIO \$2.55; MICHIGAN \$2.36; 2-lb. \$4.75; 8-oz. \$1.45; 5-lb. pails 78¢.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, extracted from Minn. 184, 60-lb. cans White Mixed Clover; 200, 60-lb. cans Light Amber; 75, 60-lb. cans Amber.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand good, market steady. Sales to bakers, baker supply houses and confectioners - MINNESOTA, Light Amber to White \$8.70-8.90 per 60-lb. can. Sales to wholesale grocers and retail grocers - MINNESOTA, U. S. No. 1, Blended Clover 12, 5-lb. pails \$9.22-9.30; 6, 5-lb. jars \$4.61-4.65; 12, 2 1/2-lb. jars \$5.00-5.15; 24, 16-oz. jars \$4.80; 24, 6-oz. jars \$1.95. Sales to retail grocers - MINNESOTA, 12, 5-lb. pails \$9.70-9.80; 6, 5-lb. jars \$4.85-4.90; 12, 2 1/2-lb. jars \$5.30-5.45; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.40; 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.30.

COMB: Sales to wholesale and retail grocers - No sales reported.

BEESWAX: Supplies light. Demand good, market steady.

NEW YORK: Rail receipts: 53,550 lbs. Ohio; 82,381 lbs. Calif., 134,900 lbs. origin not specified; boat receipts 68 bbls. origin not specified; truck receipts 14 cases Pa. Supplies light. Demand moderate, market firm. Practically all arrivals for bottlers. Few sales. Per lb.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers, bakers and manufacturers - NEW YORK, Mixed Flowers 14¢. PENNSYLVANIA and NEW YORK, Buckwheat 13 1/2¢. FLORIDA, White Tupelo 15-16¢. IMPORTED barrels and cans Light 13-14 1/2¢.

BEESWAX: Supplies very light. Demand moderate, prices at ceiling.

Quotations by importers: SOUTH AMERICA and MEXICO, Yellow 44 3/4¢. WEST INDIES and CENTRAL AMERICA, 41 1/2¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Arrivals: by truck 6,600 lbs: origin not known. No offerings. No prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck, 28,800 lbs. bottled Midwestern. No offerings. Brokers unable to obtain supplies.

PORTLAND: Arrivals: via motor truck - from Oregon 65, 60-lb. cans. Market firm, with supplies light, prices steady and unchanged.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots - OREGON, Mixed Flowers 12, 5-lb. cans \$11.00-11.60; 12, 2 1/2-lb. glass jars \$5.50-5.60; 12, 24-oz. \$3.75; 24, 8-oz. \$3.15. CALIFORNIA, Mixed Flowers 12, 5-lb. cans \$11.60.

COMB: No supplies.

BEESWAX: Arrivals: 300 lbs. Supplies light. Demand moderate, market steady. Dealers paying 41 1/2¢ per lb.

ST. LOUIS: Receipts very light. Trading very light, market steady. Sales by commission merchants to retailers -

COMB: No sales reported.

EXTRACTED: ILLINOIS, Mixed Flowers, Light Amber and Amber, 60-lb. tins few 15¢ per lb.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND and ALAMEDA: Receipts: via truck - Central California, 40 cases Light Amber, Mixed Flowers; Northern California - 778 cases Light Amber to White Thistle; beeswax 400 lbs.

EXTRACTED: The following quotations are from bottlers to wholesalers and other case lot buyers - CALIFORNIA, White Orange, Sage, Thistle, per doz: 5-lb. cans \$10.12-10.30; 5-lb. glass jars \$10.00-11.50; 2-lb. glass jars \$4.30-4.90; 1 1/2-lb. glass jars \$3.50-3.75; 1-lb. glass jars \$2.45-2.50, few \$2.00; 12-oz. glass jars \$2.00-2.17; 8-oz. glass jars \$1.32-1.47.

BEESWAX: Beekeepers receiving 41 1/2¢ delivered San Francisco from Northern California.

SEATTLE: Receipts: rail 1 car of 106 barrels origin not specified; by truck 200, 60-lb. cans Ida. Receipts light. Demand good, market firm.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots - WASHINGTON and IDAHO, Alfalfa-Sweetclover, Light to Extra Light Amber 60-lb. cans \$9.15-10.00; 12, 5-lb. pails \$10.40-10.65; 24, 24-oz. jars \$7.35-8.00; 24, 20-oz. jars \$6.25-6.90; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.10-5.70; 24, 11-oz. jars \$3.70-4.10; 28, 8-oz. jars \$3.10-3.45; 12, 5-lb. jars and 6, 10-lb. jars \$10.50-11.60; Dark to Amber 60-lb. cans \$8.40-9.25. WASHINGTON, creamed honey 24, 14-oz. cups \$5.25; 24, 40-oz. cups \$13.85.

COMB: No supplies on market.

HONEY STORAGE IN CANADA

Following are honey storage holdings in pounds as of February 1, 1943, together with comparative figures for last year:-

	CONSUMER CONTAINERS		BULK CONTAINERS	
	1942	1943	1942	1943
Halifax	2,800	No report	---	---
Saint John.	1,800	1,300	---	14,900
Quebec City	5,450	Nil	18,130	Nil
Montreal	332,486	5,342	50,390	11,940
Ottawa	31,048	288	14,340	---
Toronto	152,412	100,500	941,238	510,992
Winnipeg.	444,036	290,226	332,728	58,271
Regina	99,312	13,648	---	---
Saskatoon	173,152	1,030	---	---
Edmonton	166,600	23,320	---	---
Medicine Hat.	7,632	---	---	---
Lethbridge.	---	33,840	---	---
Calgary	132,000	---	---	---
Vancouver	359,869	31,909	114,480	226,283

From report of Marketing Service, Dominion Department of Agriculture, Feb. 4.

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Reserve

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Food Distribution Administration
CURRENT SERIAL RECORD

APR 23 1943

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Telephone- REpublic 4142,
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Washington, D. C.
March 1, 1943.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - NO. 595

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS (Last half of February)
(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted.)

SUMMARY

The latter half of February was a period of extreme variations in temperatures. The early part of the period was cold in much of the northern portion of the country and freezing weather extended far into the South. In fact the coldest weather of the winter prevailed around the middle of the month in Alabama, Georgia and Florida. In all sections, however, there were sufficient mild, clear days for bees to fly. In a number of the northern States, where extreme temperatures have prevailed for the greater part of the winter, these mild days presented the first opportunity for flight since November or early December. While there is still a fairly deep snow cover in the extreme northern States, much of the snow in the southern portion of the snow belt has melted. For the country as a whole moisture conditions now appear better than normal. Rain is needed in the Southwest, including Texas, eastern portions of the Central and Southern Rocky Mountain States, and the western Great Plains as far north as Nebraska. Honey plants in most sections came through the winter in good condition and present prospects appear quite favorable. Through the Mid-Western and Plains Area considerable sweetclover is being ploughed up to make way for soybeans, and in the Southwest some alfalfa land is being planted to flax. The stand of Dutch white clover is better than normal through the Mid-Western and Plains States and may to a degree make up for some of the decrease in sweetclover acreage.

In most sections bees came through the winter fairly well, with no abnormal losses. In some areas food supplies are running short, and some feeding will be necessary to carry the bees until the spring flow. Broodrearing is progressing quite satisfactorily in the Southern States, and even into the more northern States many hives are showing small patches of brood. Southern package bee and queen producers are booked up through the middle of May and many orders are being returned. Package bee and queen shippers are being handicapped by a lack of skilled labor and some are still finding it difficult to obtain sufficient supplies for shipping cages.

Supplies of honey in beekeepers' hands are becoming increasingly short. Of all reports received by this office during the latter half of February none included the sale or purchase of a solid carlot of honey. This would indicate that nearly all remaining supplies are small lots. Many of these will go into local channels. Sales continue generally at ceiling levels regardless of flavor or color. Supplies of beeswax were also light. Wax prices are holding around ceiling levels although a greater number of sales were reported at levels slightly under the ceiling than at any time since the Maximum Price Regulation on wax went into effect. Maximum Price Regulation No. 264 covering industrial waxes was amended, effective March 4, so as to establish new ceilings on certain imported waxes, including beeswax. A copy of the Amendment as it applies to beeswax will be found at the end of this report.

CALIFORNIA POINTS: -

Southern California. The principal producing areas of southern California received additional rainfall during the last half of February which raised the total precipitation to date far above last year's figures. Providing favorable growing weather prevails during the next few weeks there should be an abundance of early sources of nectar. The prospects for the sage flow, however, is problematical due to the long drought period of last fall and early winter. In general colonies are building up slowly - especially those that were weak when they went into the winter. It now seems doubtful if a very large percentage of colonies will be up to full strength in time for the orange flow. Broodrearing is active with many hives showing from three to five frames of brood. Consumption of food stores has been heavy recently. Bees are now gathering pollen from mustard in the valleys, and some nectar from eucalyptus. In the hills pollen is being gathered from willow, buckbrush, manzanita and eucalyptus. The orange blooming season is being rapidly advanced by warm weather and apricots and peaches are starting to bloom. There has been some movement of bees into the orange districts. Honey supplies are practically exhausted, with a continued active demand. Practically all sales in this area were made at the ceiling level of \$14.40 per case, f.o.b. country points, regardless of flavor or color. Bees sold at the ceiling levels of 41¢ per lb. cash and 43¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.

Central California. Rain in both the coastal and valley regions has been ample for spring plant growth which is about normal for this season. Condition of bees is very spotted. Some colonies came through the winter in unusually good shape, while others are quite weak. Broodrearing is progressing quite satisfactorily. Pollen is now available from almonds, manzanita, mustard, willow, and ornamental shrubs. Almonds and peaches are providing some nectar. Practically no honey is being offered and that only in very small lots. Honey receivers and bottlers have been trying desperately to buy honey of any kind or flavor. Demand for packaged honey continues strong and many bottlers are unable to fill present orders even by resorting to small containers. Sales by producers ton lots or more delivered Bay Cities - Mixed Flowers Light Amber 11¢ per lb.; delivered interior valley points - White Clover and Orange 12¢ per lb.

Northern California. Considerable rain with cloudy weather and some fog prevailed during much of this period in both coastal and valley regions. There were, however, a number of days during which bees could work. Pollen and some small amounts of nectar are now available from mustard, almond, manzanita, willow, and wild flowers. Colonies are building up rapidly, with from two to four frames of brood in most hives. Winter losses so far have been light - probably less than 5 percent - and little spring loss is anticipated. Very little honey is available and very few sales were reported. Sales by producers ton lots or more, per lb., delivered Bay Cities via truck - Light Amber Mixed Flowers 12½¢; delivered interior valley points - Mixed Flowers Extra Light Amber to Light Amber 12¢, Amber 10¢; Star Thistle White to Light Amber 12¢.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: -

West of Cascades. Temperatures were moderate with considerable sunshine during most of this period except for early morning frosts. Snow has melted in the lower altitudes. Bees have been quite actively gathering pollen from pussy-willow, filberts, hazel, and in some sections alder. Dandelion will soon be in bloom. Vegetation is showing up well and, with better than normal moisture, prospects are favorable for a good early flow. Colonies as a whole appear to be in fairly good condition, considering the fact that many were none too strong last fall. Most have ample stores to carry them until spring. In many hives population is slightly larger than usual with a small percentage of worn out bees. This condition is probably due to the abnormally cold, wet winter which kept the bees confined.

East of Cascades. Weather is quite spring-like, with a few cloudy and foggy days which are quite unusual east of the mountains. Winter losses have varied from as low as one percent to ten percent or a little more. However, average losses have been quite light. As a whole colonies are in fairly good condition with sufficient stores to carry them through until the spring flow begins. In the Yakima Valley it now looks like the apricot bloom will be later than normal - probably around the end of March which was about the same as the blooming period last year. Practically no honey remains in the hands of north-western beekeepers and too few f.o.b. sales were reported to quote. A few small lot sales of beeswax by beekeepers were reported at 41½¢ cash, and 42-43½¢ lb. in trade.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION:-

Weather has been milder over most of the Intermountain area. Snow is rapidly melting and in Colorado and Utah much of the frost is out of the ground. Moisture conditions for next season are now unusually good except on the Western Slope of Colorado where there is still some deficiency. For the region as a whole bees have wintered well. In some of the more sheltered sections a little brood is appearing. Honey supplies are very closely cleaned up and offerings are insufficient to nearly meet the demand. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted - Alfalfa-Clover case to ton lots Amber and lighter grades mostly 12¢, some Dark Amber bakers' quality 9-10¢; single 60s Amber and lighter 12-13½¢, mostly 12¢; small pails 13-14¢. Beeswax 40-41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. Details by States follow:

Colorado. Warm spring-like weather has prevailed over much of the State, although in the high mountains it is still quite cold at night and a number of chilly days have prevailed. The snow is fast melting and frost is largely out of the ground except in the mountains. Consumption of stores is becoming heavier and some colonies may need feeding to carry them through until the nectar flow starts. So far winter losses appear very light. In the eastern part of the State egg laying has begun in some of the more favored localities and brood is to be found in two or three sections. Moisture conditions are generally good with sufficient snow to insure an ample supply of irrigation water, except on parts of the Western Slope. In the eastern part of the State and on the Eastern Slope plant conditions are favorable, but on the Western Slope it is expected that the clover crop may be somewhat short due to the very dry weather which prevailed last summer and fall.

Wyoming. Mild weather during most of this period has permitted considerable flight. Some bees have been removed from cellars. Most colonies appear to be in fairly good condition and have in most cases sufficient stores to carry them through to spring.

Montana. While cool weather prevailed over most of Montana, bees in most sections have had a number of days during which it was warm enough to make good flights. In many sections snow cover is still fairly deep and a great many colonies had to be dug out from deep drifts before they could fly. Such examinations of colonies as have been made indicate winter losses at around five to ten percent, mostly due to separation of the cluster from food stores during the long extremely cold spell that prevailed during the winter.

Idaho. Several warm days during this period have permitted good flights. Bees have wintered well so far, although a few colonies have starved in supers despite the fact that there was honey in the brood nest and vice versa. Some feeding or adjustment of stores will be necessary in many yards. Some hives have brood in one or two frames. In the valleys snow is melting quite rapidly and moisture and plant conditions now appear favorable with enough snow in the mountains to assure an ample supply of irrigation water.

Utah. Warmer weather is rapidly melting the snow. There was considerable cloudy and foggy weather during this period which prevented much activity on the part of bees although they had two or three good flights.

ARIZONA:-

In the southeastern part of the State winter losses have been heavy due to lack of stores. The long drought of last fall and winter together with somewhat of a lack of moisture now is delaying early growth in this section. At the higher altitudes and in protected areas cottonwood and filaree are now yielding both nectar and pollen and bees that can reach these areas should be able to build up quite rapidly. In the southwestern irrigated sections of the State cottonwood bloom is practically over and wild flowers and flax are supplying but little nectar. It is felt that prospects in this section are none too good for the coming season, due to dry weather and the fact that considerable alfalfa has been ploughed up for flax which yields little, if any, surplus. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted - Mesquite, single 60s 11-12¢, small pails 13¢, glass jars 17¢.

SOUTHWESTERN STATES:-

Southeast Texas. Broodrearing is starting slowly, with many colonies in poor condition. It is felt that even those colonies that have plenty of stores are considerably below normal strength. A few colonies have starved and more feeding will be necessary. It will be around a month before new honey will be coming in in sufficient quantities to supply colony needs.

Lower Rio Grande Valley. Bees are working on citrus which is rapidly coming into the peak blooming season. However, most colonies in the Valley are weak and there is some doubt that any large surplus will be made from the early bloom. Broodrearing has increased rapidly and from patches of early brood some bees are emerging. There will be some shortage for early shipment of package bees in this section.

Southwest Texas. Bees have come through the winter satisfactorily. Present prospects are for a fairly early honey flow unless plants are caught by a late freeze. The season has been quite dry, and some rain will be necessary to put plants in best condition. Housenut, which is one of the earliest plants in this section, is showing up very poorly so far. Broodrearing has progressed quite rapidly on agaveita flow which produces no surplus. Considerable pollen and some nectar from other early flowers is also coming in. Package bee and queen producers have been booked to capacity for some time. No sales of honey were reported from any section of Texas.

New Mexico. The weather has been quite dry in the Mesilla Valley. Bees are gathering considerable pollen. Broodrearing is becoming quite active in those hives which have a good supply of stores and good bee population. Honey is cleaned up very closely.

Oklahoma. Some pollen producing plants are now blooming and bees have been gathering pollen since the early part of this period. While no examinations for brood were reported, bee activity would indicate that broodrearing is beginning.

PLAINS AREA:-

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. The weather has moderated sufficiently to melt much of the snow, but temperatures have not been high enough to permit flights of out-door-wintered bees. Moisture conditions are now unusually good and plants have apparently come through the winter in good shape.

Iowa. A number of very cold days prevailed during the early part of the period, but later temperatures moderated and bees were able to fly frequently. Most of the snow has disappeared. Plants apparently came through the winter in very good shape, with Dutch White clover more plentiful than for a number of years. The acreage of sweetclover will be much lighter than in recent years, with most that remaining on pasture land. Most reports indicate that bees have wintered fairly well, with only normal losses. A large percentage of the colonies examined were rather light in stores and with at least two months before new bee pastures will be available, some additional losses may be expected unless heavy feeding is resorted to. A few hives examined showed small patches of brood so that consumption of stores will shortly be much heavier. Very little honey is available and few sales were reported. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted Clover, case to ten lots 12¢, small pails 16¢, 1-lb. glass jars 20¢.

South Dakota. The weather has been mild enough during the past two weeks to remove much of the snow cover and permit considerable flight. In general bees went through the winter in fairly good condition, although some colonies starved because of lack of stores or inability of the cluster to move during severe cold weather. Prospects for a crop this season are now good in so far as moisture is concerned, but the acreage of sweetclover will likely be considerably lighter which may cut down the available nectar supply.

Kansas. Temperatures have been sufficiently mild for bees to fly for some time. Most colonies have wintered fairly well, although some feeding may be necessary before new crop honey comes in. Some hives have a little brood in two or three frames and most bees now appear to be quite strong. Soft maple is furnishing a little pollen. Sub-soil moisture is plentiful and prospects for a crop this year are good, with an increasing amount of Dutch White clover which will partially replace the decreased acreage of sweetclover. Sales f.o.b. per lb. Light Amber Alfalfa small pails 13¢.

Nebraska. The first part of the period was quite cold but temperatures moderated later and bees were quite active. Winter losses have been about normal. Moisture conditions are now somewhat better than normal for the State as a whole, although in the eastern part recent precipitation has been light.

Missouri. During the early part of the period temperatures fell to close to zero, but the latter portion of the period was mild and spring-like which permitted considerable flight. Some hives contain considerable candied honey and some early feeding is anticipated. Only a few small lot sales were reported, with Heartsease-Spanish Needle-Clover blend in small pails at 12¢ per lb. and in glass jars 13¢ per lb. f.o.b.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: -

Michigan. On the Northern Peninsula bees have been quiet in the cellars. The winter has been steadily cold and bees in cellars have wintered very well. The snow cover over Northern Michigan is still very heavy. On the Southern Peninsula a number of mild days have afforded bees good flights and practically all the snow is gone except in the extreme northern portion of the peninsula. Moisture conditions are unusually good and plants have come through the winter so far in excellent condition. However, a number of extremely cold days since the snow disappeared may cause some damage to young clover plants. Dutch White clover is more plentiful than usual, but plantings of sweetclover are somewhat lighter than in recent years. Over the State as a whole bees wintered fairly well. However, a few beekeepers report heavier than normal losses with a considerable number of dead bees at the entrances of the hives. Many colonies are light in stores and with considerable cold weather still ahead for Michigan beekeepers, heavy feeding will be necessary in some yards. Available honey supplies are light. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted - Clover, single 60s to ton lots mostly around 12¢, small pails 17¢. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb. cash and 43½¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b.

Wisconsin. During the early part of this period bees had the first flight since early in November. Most colonies that went into the winter in strong condition have apparently come through in good shape, but many weak colonies suffered rather heavy losses from long confinement, noseema infection and dysentery. Little if any actual starvation has been reported. Some of the stronger colonies are showing some brood, and consumption of stores is increasing, especially in these hives. There is still considerable snow on the ground but since there was little freezing weather before winter set in most of the moisture from the melting snow will be taken up by the soil. Moisture conditions are unusually good and it is expected that nectar-producing plants will come through in excellent condition. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted - White Clover, case to ton lots 11½¢ with cans returned, single 60s 12¢, small pails 14-17¢, 1-lb. glass jars 20¢. Beeswax 40-41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Minnesota. - except Red River Valley - A week of mild weather broke the long-continued cold and enabled bees in all parts of the State to have good flights. It is still too early to make any accurate estimate of winter losses. However, in general colonies appear to have come through the winter in fairly good condition. In some yards some starvation has been reported. Generally populations are not as heavy as at this time a year ago, but stores are probably a little more plentiful on the average, due to light consumption during the long cold period. The snow cover is still quite heavy in most sections of the State, although mild weather has settled the snow and much moisture has gone into the ground. Honey supplies are very closely cleaned up with only a few sales reported. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted - White Sweetclover, case to ton lots 12¢; Basswood-Clover single 60s 11½¢, small pails 15¢, glass jars 17¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ per lb., f.o.b.

Ohio. The weather has been extremely variable during this period, but bees were able to fly on a number of warm, clear days. There seems to be a great variation in opinion as to winter losses. In the northern part of the State losses may average as high as 10 or 12 percent, with some yards running somewhat higher, while in the southern part of the State bees came through the winter in better condition. Most of the losses were from starvation and for the State as a whole food stores are now rather light so that considerable feeding will be necessary before spring. Moisture conditions are ideal and plants have come

through the winter in fairly good condition so far. However, in Ohio much of the winter loss of clover may normally occur during March. Only a few sales in small lots were reported. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted - Clover, case to ton lots 12-13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, single 60s 12-15¢, mostly 12¢. Beeswax 40-41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ cash, and 45 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ in trade.

Indiana. A cold spell struck Indiana during the early part of this period but temperatures soon moderated and bees were able to fly several times. Throughout practically all the cold severe winter the ground has been covered with snow, affording good protection for clover crops. Such yards as have been examined indicate light losses to date, averaging probably not more than five percent. Most colonies have used lightly of their stores this winter. However, about 10 percent of the colonies are running short of food and may need considerable feeding. Moisture and plant conditions now appear excellent. Almost no honey is available and no sales were reported.

Illinois. While the first few days of this period were quite cold temperatures moderated around the 20th and bees have been able to fly much of the time since then. Reports on bee losses are very spotted. In many yards the number of dead colonies is almost negligible. In other yards losses have been quite heavy, mostly from starvation. While the clusters in many hives are rather small the bees appear quite strong and should build up rapidly if conditions remain favorable. In a few yards a little brood has been noted in about 50 percent of the hives. Moisture and plant conditions are very good. Almost no sales were reported despite the better demand. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted - case to ton lots mostly around 12¢, few low as 10¢.

Kentucky. Cold temperatures prevailed at the beginning and end of this period, with some snow in the mountains. Several warm spring-like days around the 20th permitted bees to gather small amounts of pollen. Many colonies are short of stores and will require some feeding. In some sections of the State sweetclover is apparently being attacked by a root-rot fungus disease. It is yet too early to estimate damage, however. Rainfall has been ample.

NORTHEASTERN STATES: -

New York. Mild temperatures around the 22nd permitted an excellent flight and bees have been able to fly on a number of days since that time. Flight was badly needed as many colonies had been confined since early November. Reports from those beekeepers who have examined their yards indicate that the severe winter had little detrimental effect on bees. A large percentage of the colonies appear strong, but many are light in stores and will need considerable feeding before spring. In a few colonies small patches of brood were noted. Supplies of honey in the hands of beekeepers are extremely short and only a few small lot sales were reported. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted - Dark Buckwheat and Amber Fall Flowers in small pails 12.3-13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Vermont. A thaw and rain has melted the snow in the valleys so that meadows are now exposed to considerable freezing weather. In the northern part of the State bees have not been able to fly since fall but seem to be wintering well. A few sales of Clover in small pails were reported at 20¢ per lb.

Connecticut. An unusually warm spell followed the coldest period of the winter around the middle of the month. Bees have flown freely and have cleaned house. Apparently broodrearing has started as many bees were searching for stores. Demand for honey continues good but available supplies probably will not last until the new crop comes in.

New Jersey. Temperatures were extremely low at the middle of the month but by the 20th had moderated to the point where bees could fly on a number of days. A few of the weaker colonies perished during the extremely cold weather at the beginning of this period, otherwise colonies appear to be in good condition except that many are light in stores and will require considerable feeding as soon as broodrearing gets under way. A little pollen has been available from pussywillow. Honey is extremely closely sold out and no sales were reported. A few sales of beeswax were reported at 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ cash f.o.b.

Pennsylvania. A number of warm days permitted good flights. In general bees appear to be coming through the winter in good condition. Some beekeepers report almost no losses while others feel their losses will be a little heavier than normal. Many colonies have large patches of brood in several frames. Many hives are short of stores and early feeding will be necessary in many yards. Clover and other honey plants now look unusually good and are being protected by good snow cover. A few sales were reported f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - White Clover in small pails 15-17¢; Mixed Flowers Dark Amber case to ton lots 9¢.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: -

Maryland. Temperatures were low around the middle of the month but shortly afterward it moderated to spring-like weather with temperatures in the high 30s on some days. Bees gathered some pollen from maple and pussywillow. Possibly a little nectar was gathered from maple. Most bees came through the winter in fairly good shape, with stores better than was anticipated, although many colonies require some feeding. Nearly all hives showed some eggs and many had patches of sealed brood.

West Virginia. Weather conditions have not been too favorable. A cold wind prevailed much of the time. Early pollen-bearing trees are producing, but bees have been able to work but little.

Virginia. A number of warm days around the 20th permitted bees to gather some pollen. Cool weather toward the end of the month again retarded activity, however. Some hives which were examined had considerable brood, with a little already hatched. Colonies in a number of yards are rather short of stores.

South Carolina. A cold spell of several days about the middle of the month caused some losses among clusters with brood. During the latter portion of the month temperatures have been very favorable and bees have been quite active. Broodrearing is progressing well.

SOUTHEASTERN STATES: --

Georgia. Severe cold about the middle of the month damaged many colonies even into the extreme southern portion of the State. In many colonies all queen nuclei were killed by the sudden drop in temperature. In stronger colonies the outside frames of brood and in weak colonies practically all brood was killed. This will set back queen rearing possibly three weeks. In addition many honey producing colonies will not reach their full strength in time for the early flow. These frosts severely damaged all very early honey plants which may produce a shortage of food stores later. Some beekeepers are already preparing to do some feeding. Nearly all large package bee and queen shippers are booked to capacity through the 15th of May and are returning orders. It is anticipated that the output of package bees in South Georgia will be less than last year due to material and labor shortages.

Florida. A heavy freeze around the middle of February did considerable damage to early honey plants. Also some bees were lost and broodrearing was set back somewhat. In the better yards, however, colonies appear in good condition. Prospects are good for the production of package bees, the principal drawback is lack of sufficient skilled labor for this highly specialized job. A very few sales of bulk comb honey were reported at 16-16 2/3¢ per lb.

Alabama. Alabama suffered the worst freeze of the winter the middle of the month which set bees back some and did some damage to honey producing plants. Temperatures soon moderated, however, and bees are gathering pollen and small amounts of nectar from pears, peaches, red bud, maple, willow, and some wild flowers. Demand for package bees continues heavy, with prospects fairly good for a normal output due to the early build up of the bees.

Mississippi. In the better beeyards colonies seem to be in better than normal condition for this time of the year as a result of an early build up. Losses so far have been very light.

Louisiana. Mild weather prevailed during most of this period except for early morning frosts on a number of days. Bees have been able to gather considerable pollen from willow, pear, and various other early spring flowers and ornamentals, and enough nectar to stimulate broodrearing. Most colonies now have from three to five frames of brood. Practically all package bee and queen producers are daily refusing orders and are booked until late May. Dutch white clover is fairly plentiful and prospects for a good flow from this source now appear quite favorable.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the last of February. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: No arrivals reported.

COMB: No supplies on market.

EXTRACTED: Demand good, market strong. Few sales account light offerings.

Local brokers' sales to retailers delivered basis - MIDWESTERN, White Sweetclover, 1-lb. glass jars \$3.19 per doz.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by rail 1 car Ida.; by truck 3,000 lbs. Ind., 500 lbs. Wis.

COMB: Supplies very light. Demand light, market strong. Sales to retailers - WISCONSIN, cases 24-sections cellophane-wrapped, few sales in small lots, White Clover \$5.50-6.00, Light Amber \$5.00-5.50.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand moderate, market firm. Sales to bakers and other large users - INDIANA, 5-lb. pails White Clover \$1.00.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paid 41¢-43¢ per lb. delivered Chicago for few available lots.

CLEVELAND: No arrivals. No supplies on market. No sales reported. Brokers' offering per lb. -

EXTRACTED: NEW YORK, Amber and Buckwheat 13 3/4¢.

- continued -

DENVER: Receipts: extracted approximately 6,000 lbs. Colo. Demand good for honey, market steady, very few jobbing sales.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers - COLORADO, Alfalfa-Sweetclover, White to Water White 60s \$8.50-8.80; cases 12, 5-lb. cans \$9.50-10.30; glass \$10.30-10.55; 12, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. glass \$5.70-6.90; 12, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. glass \$6.00-6.15.

COMB: Sales to retailers - few COLORADO, Fancy 24, 12-oz. cellophane-wrapped \$6.00.

BEESWAX: No sales reported. Dealers offering ceiling prices.

DETROIT: Receipts: Extracted, 12,260 lbs. Mich., 6,000 lbs. Ohio, 3,000 lbs. Ill. Supplies rather light. Demand good, market firm at ceilings.

EXTRACTED: Sales by bottlers to chain stores and jobbers- Jars per doz: OHIO, White \$2.55. MICHIGAN, White \$2.36; 8-oz. \$1.45. ILLINOIS, White \$3.19.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, from Minn: extracted, 194, 60-lb. cans Light Amber; 8, 60-lb. cans White Mixed Clover.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand good, market steady. Sales to bakers, baker supply houses and confectioners - MINNESOTA, Light Amber to White \$8.70-8.90 per 60-lb. can. Sales to wholesale grocers - MINNESOTA, U. S. No. 1, Blended Clover 12, 5-lb. pails \$9.22-9.30; 6, 5-lb. jars \$4.61-4.65; 12, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. jars \$5.00-5.15; 24, 16-oz. jars \$4.80; 24, 6-oz. jars \$1.95. Sales to retail grocers - MINNESOTA, 12, 5-lb. pails \$9.70-9.80; 6, 5-lb. jars \$4.85-4.90; 12, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. jars \$5.30-5.45; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.40; 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.30.

COMB: Sales to wholesale and retail grocers - No sales reported.

BEESWAX: Supplies very light. Demand good, market steady.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: by rail, 21,969 lbs. Fla. Supplies light. Demand exceeds supplies, market firm. Practically no offerings.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers, bakers and manufacturers - FLORIDA, White Tupelo 16-17¢; other domestic no sales reported. IMPORTED, barrels and cans, very few sales Light 13-14 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

BEESWAX: Supplies very light. Demand moderate. Price ceiling quotations by importers - SOUTH AMERICA and MEXICO, Yellow 44 5/4¢. WEST INDIES and CENTRAL AMERICAN 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Arrivals: by rail 21,300 lbs. Iowa (Received by chain stores).

Dealers unable to get supplies. No offerings. No prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck, 4,080 lbs. bottled Midwestern. No offerings. Brokers' unable to quote account no supplies obtainable.

PORTLAND: Arrivals: by motor truck - from Oregon, Mixed Flowers 89, 60-lb. cans; from Washington, Mixed Flowers 24 cases 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. glass jars. Supplies light. Market firm.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots - OREGON and WASHINGTON, Mixed Flowers, 12, 5-lb. cans \$11.00-11.60; 12, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. glass jars \$5.50-5.60; 12, 24-oz. \$3.75; 24, 8-oz. \$3.15. CALIFORNIA, Mixed Flowers 12, 5-lb. cans \$11.60.

COMB: 12 cases arrived from Southern Oregon, sold at \$6.00 per case for Fancy 12-oz.

BEESWAX: Market steady, no change in prices. Dealers paying 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb.

ST. LOUIS: Receipts very light. Market nominally steady. No sales reported.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND and ALAMEDA: Receipts, via truck - Central California, 33 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers; Beeswax 926 lbs. Northern California 160 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers; Nevada -68 cases Extra Light Amber Clover.

EXTRACTED: The following quotations are from bottlers to wholesalers and other case lot buyers - CALIFORNIA, White Orange, Sage, Thistle, per doz: 5-lb. cans \$10.12-10.80; 5-lb. glass jars \$10.00-11.50; 3-lb. glass jars \$4.30-4.90; 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. glass jars \$3.50-3.75; 1-lb. glass jars \$2.45-2.50, few \$3.00; 12-oz. glass jars \$2.00-2.17; 8-oz. glass jars \$1.32-1.47.

BEESWAX: Beekeepers receiving 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ for Yellow Wax delivered Bay Cities by truck.

SEATTLE: No receipts reported. Demand good, market steady to firm.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots. WASHINGTON and IDAHO, Alfalfa-Sweetclover, Light to Extra Light Amber 60-lb. cans \$9.15-10.00; 12, 5-lb. pails \$10.40-10.65; 24, 24-oz. jars \$7.35-8.00; 24, 20-oz. jars \$6.25-6.90; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.10-5.70; 24, 11-oz. jars \$3.70-4.10; 28, 8-oz. jars \$3.10-3.45; 12, 5-lb. jars and 6, 10-lb. jars \$10.50-11.60; Dark to Amber 60-lb. cans \$8.40-9.25. WASHINGTON, creamed honey 24, 14-oz. cups \$5.25; 24, 40-oz. cups \$13.85.

PORTIONS OF AMENDMENT IFR 264, AMENDMENT 1, APPLICABLE TO BEESWAX

A new subparagraph (8) is added to 1415.63 (a) and 1415.52 and 1415.65 (a), (b) (2), (b) (4), (c), (d), and (h) are amended as follows:

1415.52 Applicability of the General Maximum Price Regulation. The provisions of this regulation supersede the provisions of the General Maximum Price Regulation with respect to sales and deliveries of industrial waxes for which maximum prices are established by this regulation except sales and deliveries of less than 2 pounds.

* * * * *

1415.63 Definitions. (a) * * *

(8) "Entering the continental United States" shall mean the date upon which entry is made through the United States Customs.

1415.65 Appendix A: Maximum prices for industrial waxes. * * *

(4) Crude imported beeswax.

Grade	Cents per pound
Imported sun-bleachable other than African	44.75
Imported non-sun-bleachable other than African	41.50
African (either sun-bleachable or non-sun-bleachable).	37.50
* * * * *	

(c) For single sales in quantities of less than one ton, additions to the maximum prices established by paragraphs (a) and (b) of this Appendix A may be made as follows:

	Cents per pound
1. Sales of 200 lbs. to 1 ton	1
2. Sales of more than 100 lbs. but less than 200 lbs.	3
3. Sales of 50 lbs. to 100 lbs.	5
4. Sales of 2 to 49 lbs.	10

(d) The maximum prices established in paragraph (b), with the exception of those calculated for Candelilla Wax, are calculated upon freight of \$2.00 per 100 pounds to New York, marine insurance at 0.5 percent, war risk insurance at 1 percent for Central and South America, and 3 percent for Africa. Any actual charges in excess of the amounts based on the above rates, if such excess amounts to more than 25 cents per 100 pounds, may be added to the maximum prices established herein and separately charged to the buyers' account. In the event actual charges are less than the amounts based on the above rates by 25 cents or more per 100 pounds the maximum prices established herein shall be reduced accordingly and the reductions credited to the buyers' account. As used in this paragraph (d) "War risk insurance" means the war risk insurance rates as posted by the War Shipping Administration. No costs of importation other than those named in this paragraph (d) may be added to the maximum prices established in this Appendix A.

* * * * *

(h) Maximum prices f.o.b. refining plant for refined domestic beeswax, and for bleached domestic beeswax respectively shall be prices equal to the respective f.o.b. New York prices established for refined imported beeswax and for bleached imported beeswax by paragraphs (b), (c), and (d) of this Appendix A.

* * * * *

This amendment shall become effective March 4, 1943.

Issued this 26th day of February 1943.

Prentiss H. Brown,
Administrator.

* Copies may be obtained from the Office of Price Administration.

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Washington, D. C.
March 15, 1943.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - NO. 596

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS (First half of March)

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted.)

SUMMARY

Considering as a unit area all States from the Rocky Mountains eastward the first week of March was easily the coldest for the season of year since country-wide climatological records have been collected by the Weather Bureau, according to a recent release by that Bureau. Sub-zero temperatures were experienced well into central portions of the country and freezing to the Central Gulf Coast on two days. The South, where spring is more in evidence, was naturally affected by the cold weather more than other areas. In the area west of the Rocky Mountains weather was generally more springlike. In Southern California moisture deficiencies caused by the drought of last fall have been fully compensated for by excessive rains since the first of the year. In Arizona showers have helped desert vegetation, although in the southeastern part of the State there is still some moisture deficiency. Texas and portions of Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, and western Iowa are unusually dry for this season. The drought is especially noticeable in Texas and it is generally believed that if heavy rains do not come in this section soon, early sources of honey will yield little.

In the early package bee and queen rearing areas of the South and Southeast, the adverse weather has set back production somewhat. Nearly all package bee producers report unusually heavy orders. Most are booked into late May and are turning down many orders which they will be unable to fill. Labor shortage will be the big factor in determining just what expansion in beekeeping will take place this year. Some beekeepers hope to partially overcome this labor shortage by reducing the number of out-yards and by operating closer to home. In the Southern States consideration is being given to the increased use of women in package bee and queen rearing operations. In most sections beekeepers advise that they are being allotted sufficient tires and gas to carry on a large portion of their normal operations.

Beekeepers are also in much better position in the matter of supplies. Under an amendment to WPB Order L-170 dated March 6, production of beekeepers' supplies, other than hives, frames, replacements, and repairs, has been authorized up to 100 percent of 1940 or 1941 production, whichever is greater. The previous allotment was 38 percent. No restriction now exists on the manufacture of beehives, including frames. Replacements and repairs for bee equipment now have a quota of 166 percent of 1940 or 1941, and under a recent ruling of WPB bee smokers and bee veils may be considered as repair items under Limitation Order L-170.

Under an amendment to WPB order M-81, effective March 12, 1943 an unlimited pack of honey in 60-pound cans is permitted. This is an increase from the previous phrasing of the order which permitted the packing of only 100 percent of 1942 pack, which in many areas was very short. As this WPB order permits unlimited pack for only two other commodities, blood plasma and nicotine sulphate, beekeepers can consider that the importance of beekeeping and of bees for pollination has been given special recognition. Under this order no allotment of tin is being made for manufacture of honey containers smaller than 60s.

In most sections of the country except in the south Central States, where more or less drought conditions prevail, honey producing plants appear to have come through the winter in good shape with favorable prospects for the coming season. Some concern is felt in the Plains States over the sweetclover acreage which is being turned over to other crops. In the western portion of the White Clover Belt stands of Dutch white clover are better than normal.

Honey supplies are becoming increasingly light. For the second two-weeks period in succession not a single solid carlot sale of honey was reported by any of our reporters. Practically all offers and sales are at ceiling levels regardless of flavor or color. Many packers are very closely cleaned up and it now looks like some will have to discontinue packing operations within the near future, until the new crop comes in. A report of honey stocks in storage in Canada on March 1 indicates that Canadian supplies in storage are less than half those on the same date a year ago.

CALIFORNIA POINTS:-

Southern California. Bees are building up quite rapidly in this area. The early bees should be in strong condition for the orange flow which will start during late March or early April, a little earlier than usual. Younger bees should be ready for the sage flow. Bees are now gathering considerable pollen and some nectar from manzanita, eucalyptus, almond, cover crops, various wild trees and shrubs, and small amounts from scattered orange groves which are beginning to bloom. Rainfall has been plentiful since the first of the year. Fall deficiencies have been fully made up and for the section as a whole the total amount of precipitation has been somewhat heavier than normal. Taken as a whole present prospects are favorable for the production of a large crop of honey this year. Several well-informed beekeepers state that the sage and buckwheat plants are now more promising than they have been at any time during the last fifteen years. There is an excellent low plant growth which is the best producer of flowers. In so far as sage is concerned, there is a feeling of uncertainty among some other beekeepers since they claim that very early rains are necessary for a good sage flow. Demand for honey continues active with practically nothing available. Various types and grades of honey are moving at the ceiling level of \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds f.o.b. country points. Beeswax was scarce during early March, with a limited amount moving at ceiling levels of 41¹/₂¢ per lb. cash, or 43¹/₂¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. Many beekeepers are keeping the balance of their wax for foundation.

Imperial Valley. Showers during late February and early March helped all vegetation. The weather has been somewhat warmer, permitting considerable activity on the part of bees. Bees are expanding their brood nests, with most colonies showing an average of four to five sheets of brood. Flax, which should continue in bloom during the most of March, is yielding some honey.

Central California. Rainfall during this period has been beneficial to honey-producing plants both in valley and coastal areas. Reports on sage are very favorable at this time. Bees have come through the winter in good condition. In most districts pollen and nectar is being gathered from almond, plum, mustard, manzanita, eucalyptus, fiddleneck, filaree, cotton, and a large assortment of early blooming wild flowers and weeds. Broodrearing is rapidly increasing and some colonies have about reached swarming strength, although swarming has not yet become a factor. In general colonies are of better than normal strength for this season. Demand for honey continues strong and only a very few small lots have been offered. No sales were reported.

Northern California. Rainy, cloudy weather during much of this period has retarded bee activity. Most colonies are in good condition and building up rapidly. Most hives have sufficient honey and pollen stores to maintain the colonies until the spring flow gets under way. Pollen and nectar have been available from apricot, plum, peach, mustard, manzanita, chickweed; and a variety of wild flowers. However, weather has prevented bees from taking full advantage of the flow. Very little honey is available. Sales by producers in ton lots or more, delivered Bay Cities via truck- Extra Light Amber Thistle 12-12¹/₂¢; delivered interior valley points - Mixed Flowers, Extra Light Amber 12¢, Light Amber 11 3/4¢.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST:-

West of Cascades. In the Willamette Valley of Oregon and the valley sections of Western Washington, weather has been moderately clear but cold winds much of the time have prevented extensive activity on the part of bees. In some yards winter losses were fairly heavy, being reported as high as 30 percent. In other yards bees came through the winter well and now appear quite strong. Bees have been getting pollen from willow, filbert and hazel, and small amounts of nectar from willow and a few early dandelions. In the Willamette Valley the vetch acreage is much lighter than last year. The crimson clover crop is also below normal. Among other honey producing plants acreages appear about normal. Vegetation is in very good condition due to the heavy precipitation of last winter. In southwestern Oregon colonies are expanding rapidly with four to five frames of brood in many hives. Bees are obtaining pollen and small amounts of nectar from willow, chickweed, and soft maple. Manzanita is just beginning to secrete nectar.

East of Cascades. Weather in eastern Oregon and Washington continues unseasonably cool. No pollen or nectar bearing plants have appeared yet. Taken as a whole bees wintered unusually well considering the length and severity of the season. Generally estimates indicate that winter losses from all causes will not average in excess of 10 percent. Soil moisture is good and deep snows in the mountains assure plentiful supplies of irrigation water. Very little honey is available and only small lot sales were reported with White Alfalfa in 5-lb. pails at 90¢ and 10-lb. pails \$1.75 each.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION:-

Weather was considerably colder over most of this area than during the latter part of February. Little or no bee activity was reported. Further snow-fall and in some sections rains have improved moisture conditions. In general moisture and plant conditions are considered better than average for this season. Broodrearing has begun in nearly all sections. In some yards a little loss of brood is expected, due to the cold. Honey is very closely cleaned up and only a few small lot sales were reported. Sales f.o.b. shipping point-Alfalfa-Clover Light Amber mostly 12¢, a few as high as 12½¢, some Dark Amber 11¢. Offerings of beeswax were also light, with a few sales reported at 41¢ per lb. cash and 43¢ in trade f.o.b. Details by States follow:

Colorado. Some of the coldest weather of the winter prevailed over much of Colorado during the early part of March. Considerable snow in the mountains should insure sufficient irrigation water for next season. A moderate snow blanket over the Plains Area protected honey producing plants during this cold period. In sections where broodrearing had actively begun there were likely some losses of brood. Winter losses have not been excessive in those yards where early examination has been made.

Wyoming. The weather has been unseasonably cool during early March, with zero to sub-zero temperatures prevailing almost nightly over much of the State. Some damage to bees which were not well protected may be expected. So far winter losses in Wyoming have been rather light, however. Moisture conditions are somewhat better than normal over most of this State, and at present plants appear to be in good condition.

Montana. Cold nights, at times reaching considerably below zero, occurred during most of this period. While temperatures have been warm enough for some thawing on most days at no time were they high enough for flights. Many colonies are badly in need of a good flight. Early examinations indicate that possibly 20-25 percent of the colonies will need some feeding. In the better yards winter losses will likely average around five percent, based on present indications. A good snow cover all winter maintained honey producing plants in fine condition. Moisture conditions now appear unusually good.

Idaho. Cooler weather kept bees confined during early March. In most sections there was a little snow on the ground. Some damage may occur to honey plants. Winter losses now appear about normal with most colonies in good condition. Irrigation water should be ample for next season, based on present prospects.

Utah. While the weather has not been severe over most of Utah it has been too cool for bees to work. Bees are apparently in good shape although many colonies have too much brood for this time of year.

Nevada. Reports indicate bees wintered well, with light losses to date. The weather continued mild with ample rainfall in most areas. Vegetation is coming along slowly in the northern part of the State and little activity is expected before April 1.

ARIZONA:-

Showers in southern Arizona have improved plant conditions. In the Yuma Section bees are bringing in pollen ^{from} cottonwood and some early spring flowers. In the Salt River Valley citrus is just beginning to bloom and many bees are being moved into the grove sections. Only a few small lot sales of honey were reported, with Mesquite in 10-lb. pails at 12¢ per lb. f.o.b.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA:-

Northeast Texas. Temperatures fell to unseasonably low temperatures around March 5. The fruit crop was seriously damaged. Some brood was killed and broodrearing somewhat curtailed. There have been three hard freezes in this section since February 10 which have injured many bi-ennial honey plants. The extent of this damage is not known.

East Texas. Early March was both unusually cold and unusually dry. Many early blooming plants were frozen back. Colony strength is probably above normal for this season of the year. Due to the late freeze there is considerable danger of many colonies running short of stores.

Southeast Texas. Over a week of sub-normal temperatures have damaged early vegetation. The ground is still very dry. Bees are gathering some pollen from the huisache tree, black brush, catsclaw, and agarita. A very small amount of nectar is being obtained from agarita when bees are able to work. Brood-rearing is progressing only fairly well. Some colonies that were light in stores have starved. Queenrearing is getting off to a very late start, and the first package shipments will be delayed several days.

Lower Rio Grande. Rain is badly needed in this section. Citrus trees are blooming but cold weather is retarding them somewhat. This is to the advantage of the beekeeper as it will give these colonies a little more time to gain in strength. Where a good-sized force of bees is in the hive considerable nectar is being gathered.

Southwest Texas. Honey plants in this section are badly in need of rain. The early spring nectar flow will likely be light unless considerable rain falls shortly. Many bees are being fed. Some beekeepers anticipate that they will run out of their sugar allotment before flowering plants come on sufficiently to maintain colonies. Black brush is in bloom and catsclaw and mesquite are showing signs of leafing out in the near future.

New Mexico. New Mexico enjoyed a very mild winter. Winter losses of bees have been negligible. In the Mesilla Valley plums, apricots and peaches are just beginning to bloom. In this section some bees are still dying from the effects of cotton poisoning last fall.

Oklahoma and Arkansas. Oklahoma experienced some of the lowest temperatures of the winter during late February and early March. Many early blooming plants have been injured, cutting off pollen supplies. Some weak colonies and those short of stores have likely been injured.

PLAINS AREA:-

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. Cold weather prevailed during the early portion of March, with temperatures going below zero on many days. In most sections there is considerable snow which has protected the clover crop. No reports were received as to the condition of bees.

Iowa. The weather was unseasonably cool during the forepart of the month. A little snow fell, but the snow cover has been light over most of the State for several weeks. In fact, in the western portion of the State the soil is quite dry. Generally speaking bees have wintered fairly well, but many colonies are very short of honey and will need feeding. In some yards considerable brood is showing up. Demand continues active for honey, but very little is available. Sales f.o.b. per lb. Clover single 60s to ton lots 12¢. Beeswax, few sales 41¢ cash, and 45¢ in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Kansas. In some sections of Kansas losses of bees during the recent cold spell are expected to exceed the losses during the entire previous portion of the winter. In late February some maples were blooming but following that cold weather has stopped all bloom or plant development. Some losses of brood are expected. Little honey is available and no sales were reported.

Nebraska. Cold weather and snow with high winds have kept bees confined during this entire period. Bees in cellars are becoming increasingly restless and some appear on the verge of starvation, indicating that feeding will be necessary soon. In most sections of the State a light blanket of snow has given some protection to honey producing plants, but for the State as a whole the ground is quite dry and considerable additional moisture will be needed to put plants in prime condition.

Missouri. The weather during early March was extremely variable, ranging from around zero to fifty or sixty degrees above. Snow covers the ground in much of the State. Bees were able to fly on only a couple of days. There is some speculation as to how bees fared during this cold snap as most colonies had some brood. A very few sales were reported f.o.b., per lb. - extracted, Heartsease-Spanish Needle-Clover blend case to ton lots 12¢, small pails 12¢, 1-lb. glass jars 13¢.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES:-

Michigan. Bees had a good flight in most sections of the State during the last few days of February. Cold weather during the first half of March - at times reaching considerably below zero - has kept bees confined since that time. Colonies that went into the winter with sufficient stores and were adequately protected apparently went through the winter in better than normal condition. Some losses have shown up in yards which were low in food stores last fall or were wintered without packing. Some snow cover remains over most of the State so that honey plants should come through the winter in good shape. Honey supplies are extremely light and very few sales were reported. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted White Clover-Alfalfa 12¢. Beeswax, 41¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Wisconsin. This period has been too cold for bees to leave their hives. In some sections temperatures reached as low as 15 degrees below zero. During the first few days of March the ground in a number of areas was bare during the cold weather. However, a good snowfall later protected plants so that losses of vegetation should not be severe. It is still too early to make an accurate estimate as to winter losses. Some beekeepers report their bees have wintered normally or better, while others report some loss from starvation even with supplies of honey still in the hives. The long cold winter prevented some clusters from moving to fresh stores. Some beekeepers also anticipate losses from dysentery and some colonies are showing evidence of nosema. Supplies of honey in beekeepers' hands are about exhausted. Only a few sales were reported. Sales f.o.b. per lb. - extracted, Clover case to ton lots 12¢; White Clover-Basswood small pails 17¢; 1-lb. glass jars 20¢.

Minnesota. Cold weather prevailed during most of this period, at times accompanied by a high wind which drove the cold through many houses and packed hives. As a result, some beekeepers feel that winter losses will be heavier

than anticipated a month ago. A snow cover is protecting plants and moisture conditions now appear quite favorable. Demand for honey far exceeds available offerings and almost no sales were reported. Sales f.o.b. per lb. - Clover, case to ton lots 12¢ with cans furnished and 11½¢ with cans returned; small pails 14½¢; 2½-lb. jars 15¢; 1-lb. jars 16¢.

Ohio. Cold weather kept bees confined during most of this period, although during the last few days temperatures have moderated somewhat. In the northern part of the State the snow cover gave some protection to plants, but in the southern portion crops were exposed in many sections. Indications of winter losses are extremely variable. In the better yards in the southern part of the State losses may not run more than three to five percent, while in the northern area and among some of the poorer yards losses may run ten to fifteen percent and in some cases more. Some feeding will likely be necessary in all sections. A few beekeepers are already feeding some when weather permits. Little honey is available for sale and very few sales were reported. Sales f.o.b. shippings points, per lb., extracted, Clover case to ton lots 12-14¢, 5-lb. pails 20-22¢, 10-lb. pails 17½¢. Beeswax, few small lots 40¢ per lb. f.o.b.

Indiana. Cold weather has kept bees confined over most of Indiana since about the 20th of February. In some yards the recent cold may cause some additional losses. For the State as a whole, however, bees appear to be in fairly good condition. Some, however, are short of stores and will require early feeding. A good snow cover has protected honey plants during the recent cold weather.

Illinois. The first half of March has been one of the coldest periods of the winter in Illinois. Temperatures fell somewhat below zero. A few inches of snow in most sections gave some protection to the crops. This cold spell was hard on bees in many sections, especially where food stores were light and brood-rearing had begun. Some beekeepers report winter losses have not been excessive while others, especially where stores were light, feel that losses may run as high as 35 to 50 percent. Considerable early feeding will be necessary. Practically no honey is available in this section and no sales were reported.

Kentucky. The first part of March was cold and snowy most of the time, although in some sections bees obtained a limited flight around the 10th. Many colonies are short on stores, but there has been little colony loss from starvation. In a few hives young bees have been noted at the entrance. There is an adequate supply of sub-soil moisture but most fields are still quite dormant. Since there was little or no snow cover during the cold spell there has been some heaving of honey plants and grains.

NORTHEASTERN STATES:-

New York. The forepart of March was extremely cold for this season in most sections of the State. In the more northern mountainous sections many bees have not had a flight since last fall. Among the better beekeepers who left sufficient stores last fall and properly packed their bees winter losses will likely be light. Among those who extracted too closely and did not properly store their bees winter losses may be quite heavy. It is still too early to determine average winter losses for the State as a whole. Honey plants have been protected by a good snow cover most of this winter and plant and moisture conditions now appear quite favorable. Almost no honey is being offered and very few sales were reported. Sales f.o.b. per lb., extracted Mixed Buckwheat-Goldenrod, case to ton lots 11¢; in 5-lb. pails 15¢; Clover and Basswood 5-lb. pails 18¢.

Vermont. After some sub-zero weather at the beginning of this period the weather moderated slightly towards the middle of March and the snow was melting rapidly. In some sections of the State bees had a partial flight during the latter part of the period. It is still too early to predict winter losses. The market is practically bare of honey. A few small lot sales in 5-lb. pails were made at around 20¢ per lb. f.o.b. Small lots of beeswax sold at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash, and 43½¢ in trade, f.o.b.

Connecticut. No reports were received as to condition of bees or honey plants. Honey is very closely cleaned up despite the fact that the Connecticut crop last fall was badly contaminated with honeydew.

New Jersey. The early part of the period was quite cold, with some snow in most sections of the State. Toward the end of the period temperatures moderated and bees were able to fly some. Strong colonies with ample stores have wintered with little or no loss. Some weaker colonies have dwindled or died. In most sections considerable spring feeding will be necessary. Colonies which are well supplied with stores have begun broodrearing quite actively.

Pennsylvania. Early in the month a fairly good snow cover protected honey-producing plants from cold, but toward the end of the period warmer weather melted much of the snow. Bees were confined except for the last day or two of the period. Bees which were well packed for winter and left with sufficient stores have wintered well and now appear to be normal or a little better than normal. Among weaker colonies and some which were not properly stored losses have been quite heavy, in some cases being estimated as high as 60 percent. Practically no honey remains in the hands of beekeepers and no sales were reported.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES:-

Maryland. Moderately cold weather kept bees confined during the early part of this period, but the last few days were warm enough for bees to fly. A little pollen was gathered from willow and maple. In a number of yards feeding has begun. Moisture conditions are now very favorable and clover plants look unusually promising.

West Virginia. Recent zero, with some sub-zero, weather has been hard on bees in the mountainous regions of West Virginia. Some colonies starved during the winter due to the fact that clusters could not move to fresh stores. It is generally believed that winter losses to date will run around 10 percent and possibly a little heavier. Some of the colonies which came through the winter are now rather weak. Considerable early feeding will be necessary in many yards. The clover crop is in only fair condition.

South Carolina. Cool weather has been quite adverse to bee activity during the early part of March. A number of weak colonies were killed. A portion of the peach bloom was killed along with some other sources of pollen. It now appears there will be a shortage of early pollen.

SOUTHEASTERN STATES:-

Georgia. Cool weather with some frost continued over most of Georgia. Spring weather during the early part of February started budding and bloom on the earliest honey plants. Several light freezes and heavy frosts during the latter part of February damaged the plants and cut off the pollen and nectar supply. The continued cool weather has held plants back. Bees have consumed heavily of their stores recently and most colonies are beginning to run short. Some feeding will be necessary in many yards to build up the colonies for the main honey flow. An unprecedented demand was reported for package bees. Leading package-bee shippers seem to be all sold out for shipment beyond May 15. Some apparently refused about as many orders as they will be able to accept.

Florida. The first part of March was unseasonably cool over most of Florida. In the northern part of the State frosts arrested the development of plants and killed the early ti-ti which was in full bloom. In the southern part of the State oranges are beginning to bloom and in favored localities bees have been able to build up somewhat. In the low swamp areas pennyroyal and some other early plants have been blooming but the weather has been too cool and windy for much bee activity. Despite these setbacks colonies in many yards are considered to be normal or slightly above. Almost no honey is available but a few sales were reported at 12¢ per lb. f.o.b. in single 60s, and 1-lb. glass jars at 16 2/3¢ per lb.

Alabama and Mississippi. The early part of March was abnormally cold. Some damage was reported to pear and plum and other early flowering plants and trees. Broodrearing has been slowed down somewhat by the cool weather. Some brood has been chilled and some will likely die.

Louisiana. In Southern Louisiana the longest period of cold weather of the winter prevailed during the first ten days of March. Temperatures went slightly below freezing during nights and cold winds in the day prevented bee activity. Tender vegetation and blooms were killed. It is not likely that unopened blossoms were killed, so that after a few warm days pollen will likely again be available. Prior to the cold weather many colonies have replenished their stores sufficiently to assure safety until spring. Many colonies have built up rapidly and now have emerging brood, with some sealed brood in every hive. Many other colonies are increasing slowly. Demand for package bees and queens continue unusually heavy and orders are being returned at a rapid rate. In Northern Louisiana the cold spell caused severe loss of young bees. Scale colonies which were showing some gains during February are now losing at the rate of about a half pound a day. Winter losses have been light so far, but in most yards some feeding has been necessary. Honey plants will now bloom somewhat later than was anticipated earlier in the season.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the middle of March. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: No arrivals.

COMB: No supplies on market.

EXTRACTED: Demand good, market strong. Few sales account light offerings. Local brokers' sales to retailers delivered basis - MIDWESTERN, White Sweetclover 1-lb. glass jars \$3.19 per doz.

CHICAGO: No rail receipts reported; truck 2,625 lbs. Ill., 1,280 lbs. Mo.

COMB: No supplies on market.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand moderate, market firm. Sixty-pound tins, White Clover, Per lb. Few small lots - ILLINOIS, 15¢; MISSOURI, 14¢. ILLINOIS, 5-lb. jars White Clover \$12.00 per doz. Basis: Sales to bakers and other large users.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paid 41½-43½¢ per lb. delivered Chicago for few available lots.

CLEVELAND: No supplies on market. No sales reported. Nothing offered by brokers.

DENVER: No receipts. Demand good, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers - COLORADO, Alfalfa-Sweetclover, White to Water White 60s \$8.50-8.80; cases 12, 5-lb. cans \$9.50-10.30; glass \$10.30-10.55; 12, 2½-lb. glass \$5.70-6.90; 12, 1½-lb. glass \$6.00-6.15.

BEESWAX: No sales reported. Dealers offering 41½¢ per lb. for Domestic crude,

DETROIT: Receipts: extracted 10,550 lbs. Mich., 3,000 lbs. Ill., 300 lbs. Ohio.

Supplies light. Demand very good, market firm at ceilings.

EXTRACTED: Sales by bottlers to chain stores and jobbers - Jars, per dozen: White, Per lb. OHIO, \$2.55; MICHIGAN \$2.30-2.36; ILLINOIS \$2.45; MICHIGAN, 8-oz. \$1.45; 5-oz. \$1.05, 1-lb. cartons granulated \$2.87.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, Minn. White Sweetclover 160, 60-lb. cans; comb, 50, 24-section cases. Beeswax 40 lbs.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand good, market steady. Sales to bakers, baker supply houses and confectionarys - MINNESOTA, Light Amber to White \$8.70-8.90 per 60-lb. can. Sales to wholesale grocers - MINNESOTA, U. S. One Blended Clover 12, 5-lb. pails \$9.22-9.30; 6, 5-lb. jars \$4.61-4.65; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$5.00-5.15; 24, 16-oz. jars \$4.80; 24, 6-oz. jars \$1.95. Sales to retail grocers - MINNESOTA, 12, 5-lb. pails \$9.70-9.80; 6, 5-lb. jars \$4.85-4.90; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$5.30-5.45; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.40; 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.30.

BEESWAX: Supplies very light. Demand good, market steady. Sales reported 41½¢ per f.o.b. Minneapolis.

NEW YORK: Arrivals - 65,000 lbs. Calif., 181,640 lbs. and 3 cars origin not specified. Supplies moderate but mostly going on previous sales and insufficient to meet demand. Market firm. Very few jobbing sales.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers, bakers and manufacturers - FLORIDA, White Tupelo 16-18¢; other Domestic, no sales reported. Imported: barrels and cans 13-14½¢.

BEESWAX: Practically no supplies on market. No quotations, but market nominally at ceiling.

PHILADELPHIA: No arrivals. Dealers unable to get supplies. No offerings.

BEESWAX: No offerings.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck, 4,800 lbs. bottled Midwestern. No offerings. Brokers unable to obtain supplies.

ST. LOUIS: Receipts very light. Market nominally steady but no sales reported.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND and ALAMEDA: Receipts via truck - Northern California 87 cases Extra Light Amber to White Thistle.

EXTRACTED: The following quotations are from bottlers to wholesalers and other case lot buyers - CALIFORNIA, White Orange, Sage, Thistle, per doz: 5-lb. cans \$10.12-10.80; 5-lb. glass jars \$10.00-11.50; 2-lb. glass jars \$4.30-4.90; 1½-lb. glass jars \$3.50-3.75; 1-lb. glass jars \$2.45-2.50, few \$3.00; 12-oz. glass jars \$2.00-2.17; 8-oz. glass jars \$1.32-1.47.

BEESWAX: Nothing offered.

SEATTLE: No receipts reported. Demand good, market firm.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots - WASHINGTON and IDAHO, Alfalfa-Sweetclover, Light to Extra Light Amber, 60-lb. cans \$9.15-10.00; 12, 5-lb. pails \$10.40-10.65; 24, 24-oz. jars \$7.35-8.00; 24, 20-oz. jars \$6.25-6.90; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.10-5.70; 24, 11-oz. jars \$3.70-4.10; 28, 8-oz. jars \$3.10-3.45; 12, 5-lb. jars and 6, 10-lb. jars \$10.50-11.60; Dark to Amber 60-lb. cans \$8.40-9.25. WASHINGTON, creamed honey 24, 14-oz. cups \$5.25; 24, 40-oz. cup, \$13.85.

PORTLAND: Arrivals: Extracted via motor truck - from Oregon Mixed Flowers 225 cases, 24, 8-oz. jars, 60 cases 12, 2½-lb. jars. Supplies light. Market firm. Very good demand from consumer with stocks barely sufficient to meet the demand.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots - OREGON, Mixed Flowers, 12, 2½-lb. glass jars \$5.50-5.60; 12, 24-oz. \$3.75, 24, 8-oz. \$3.15.

BEESWAX: Market steady. Dealers paying 41½¢ per lb.

HONEY STORAGE IN CANADA

Following are honey storage holdings in pounds as of March 1, 1943, together with comparative figures for last year:-

	<u>CONSUMER</u> <u>CONTAINERS</u>		<u>BULK</u> <u>CONTAINERS</u>	
	<u>1942</u>	<u>1943</u>	<u>1942</u>	<u>1943</u>
Halifax	2,300	700	-	-
Saint John.	3,000	2,100	-	3,000
Quebec City	4,660	Nil	14,850	-
Montreal.	230,747	6,033	50,255	-
Ottawa	35,180	144	11,340	-
Toronto	217,410	100,814	620,835	424,100
Winnipeg.	329,638	193,773	186,938	15,540
Regina	88,308	7,920	-	-
Saskatoon	110,047	Nil	-	-
Edmonton	129,102	23,320	-	-
Lethbridge.	34,608	23,148	-	-
Medicine Hat.	9,648	Nil	-	-
Calgary	100,704	Nil	-	-
Vancouver	316,840	66,572	96,432	325,182

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MEB

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Food Distribution Administration

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SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT -- NO. 597 --

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS (Last half of March)

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted.)

SUMMARY

Weather during the first week of this period was unseasonably cool, with fairly heavy snows in portions of the Great Plains and Rocky Mountain areas and the North Central States. During the last week of March temperatures moderated. The Northwest and interior sections were abnormally warm. In the Southwest, however, the last week of March was cold and frosts caused some additional damage to tender truck and early fruit. Substantial to heavy rains relieved persistent drought conditions in most of Oklahoma and Texas. Rain is still needed in Arizona, New Mexico, extreme western Texas, and the western portions of Oklahoma and Kansas. The advance of vegetation is backward, considerably later than in a normal year, in many sections.

The low temperatures of the early part of this period caused some damage to bees in the North Central States and Plains Area and set back broodrearing in nearly all sections of the country. In some of the more northern States condition of colonies is not as favorable now as a month ago. Considerable pollen is available to bees in the southern half of the country and nectar is being gathered in the Southeast, the Gulf States and in the Southwest. The first surplus honey of the season is being extracted in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas.

Cool weather has set back package bee and queen rearing operations in the Southern States. In some areas it will now be impossible to ship all early orders on schedule. Southern package producers are booked to capacity and are either turning down orders or accepting them for delivery only in late May. It is still too early to determine just how much, if any, expansion the beekeeping industry can expect this season. Labor continues to be the most important factor. As stated in our last report, regulations governing production of beekeepers' supplies and equipment have been somewhat relaxed so that production can be increased. However, shortages of lumber are preventing supply manufacturers in some cases from turning out as many hives as might be hoped for. Many orders for hives have already been turned down. In some cases local mills are able to furnish lumber and beekeepers are making their own hives.

Maximum Price Regulation 275 has been amended, effective April 3. This amendment sets up specific cents-per-pound maximum prices for packaged honey as an alternative pricing method for packers. The alternative method of pricing is temporary and the regulation will be completely revised as soon as possible, probably with specific maximum prices throughout. At the same time it was announced that sales of packaged honey at wholesale and retail would be placed under fixed mark-up regulations. This amendment also provides a maximum price of 15¢ per lb. for bulk honey sold by the producer directly at the retail level. Bulk honey was re-defined as that packed in a container of more than 15 pounds and packaged honey as that sold in containers of 15 pounds or less. The dividing line previously had been ten pounds. The previously established maximum price of 12¢ per lb. on sales of bulk honey by producers to wholesalers, packers, etc., remains unchanged. Mark-ups for sales of honey by importers were also established. Complete copies of this amendment are enclosed with this report.

CALIFORNIA POINTS:--

Southern California. Weather during the latter half of March was ideal for plant growth, but a little too cool and cloudy for best activity on the part of bees, although they were able to fly some on most days. Sufficient rain fell during this period to prevent drying of the top soil. Broodrearing has been active. For the section as a whole colonies should be in a strong position to take advantage of the orange flow which will increase early in April. Most plants are running about two weeks later than normal, due to the relatively cool, damp weather since the first of the year. In the valley sections bees have been obtaining considerable pollen and a little nectar from mustard, avocados, eucalyptus, scattered orange, and wild flowers. In the foot-hills and mountain areas buckhorn, filaree, wild plum, manzanita, and some wild flowers are furnishing pollen and some nectar. In the extreme southern portion of the area a little bloom has been noted on sage in scattered locations. Many bees are being moved to the orange districts. Plant conditions as a whole are considered somewhat better than average for this season, although the blooming period is a little late. Demand for honey continues active, with practically nothing available. All sales by beekeepers were reported at the ceiling of \$14.40 per

case of 120 pounds, f.o.b. country points. Limited supplies of beeswax met with a fairly good demand at ceiling prices of 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash, or 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Imperial Valley. Bees are in fairly good condition to take advantage of the spring flow. Flax has been blooming for several weeks. This has helped bees to build up, but little honey has been obtained from this source. A little pollen and nectar is being obtained from cantaloup, willow and grapefruit. Plant prospects now look favorable. However, some beekeepers are concerned over the acreage of alfalfa that has been ploughed up for flax and beets. Also, with the high hay prices in prospect alfalfa growers will likely cut as often as possible which may decrease the honey flow from alfalfa, which is the principal source of nectar in the Imperial Valley. While no sales were reported during this period the market is nominally at the ceiling of \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds, f.o.b.

Central California. Heavy rains during the early part of this period kept bees confined much of the time, but were beneficial to plants. Colonies are in good condition. A little surplus of honey is being made on sunny days when bees can work, but due to considerable cloudy and rainy weather consumption has run somewhat ahead of production. When weather permits bees are working on mustard, fruit bloom, filaree, eucalyptus, and wild flowers. There has been some moving of bees to the orange districts. Plant conditions are exceptionally good. In the San Joaquin Valley spikeweed and Jack clover are more abundant than usual for this date. Demand for honey continues heavy, with bottlers snapping up any small lots offered by producers. Sales by producers, ton lots or more, delivered Bay Cities via truck - Light Amber Mixed Flowers 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. Beeswax 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. f.o.b. shipping point.

Northern California. Weather conditions have been very favorable for plant development, but a little too cloudy and rainy for full bee activity. Colonies have built up well since the middle of the month. Most have from six to eight frames of brood. Pollen and nectar have been available from almond, peach, plum, prune, and other orchard bloom, mustard, and a wide assortment of wild flowers. Sources of pollen are very abundant and well developed. It now looks like the crop of annual honey-producing plants will be abnormally plentiful because of the ideal moisture conditions. A few small lots of honey were sold during this period. Sales by producers, ton lots or more, delivered Bay Cities via truck - White Thistle 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ -12 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ per lb.; delivered interior valley points - Mixed Flowers Light Amber to Extra Light Amber 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ -12¢, mostly 12¢ per lb.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: -

West of Cascades. Western Oregon weather was generally clear with light morning frosts except during the close of the period when heavy rains fell. In northwestern Washington the weather has been generally cold and rainy. Plants are somewhat backward due to the cool weather. Broodrearing is progressing but there has been some lack of sufficient pollen. Pollen has been available from filberts and pussywillows. A few early spring flowers have offered small amounts of nectar, but far from enough to care for current consumption. Chaparral is starting to bloom in southern Oregon and within the next couple of weeks should offer considerable pasturage. Prospects look favorable for clover, fruit and fireweed bloom. The acreage of vetch and some other annuals is expected to be lighter than normal.

East of Cascades. The weather has turned somewhat warmer in eastern Oregon and Washington, although temperatures are still dropping to the freezing point almost nightly. Bees have been actively gathering some pollen from willow. Maples are just budding. Brood nests are being expanded and most colonies look like they should be in good condition for the main fruit bloom. All fruit bloom is somewhat delayed. Apricots in the Yakima Valley will probably open around the first of April. Better than normal inquiry has developed for bees for pollination.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: -

The third week of March was unseasonably cold over much of the Intermountain and Rocky Mountain area. Snow fell in the mountains and snow and rain in the valleys and plains. These weather conditions have retarded broodrearing in some areas and in those sections where broodrearing has become quite active, may have caused some losses. Moisture conditions now look unusually good. With the exception of some possible damage to fruit buds, plant conditions appear favorable. Bees were unable to fly in most sections except for a few days toward the end of the month. In Colorado a little pollen is available, but in other sections it is too early for bees to gather any food supplies. For the section as a whole winter losses have been relatively light, averaging probably less than ten percent to date. However, many colonies are somewhat light in stores and considerable early feeding will be necessary to carry bees through. Honey is very closely cleaned up. The only actual sales reported were at ceiling levels of 12¢ per lb. in single 60s to ton lots with cans furnished, and 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. with cans returned. Several fairly large lots of beeswax moved at the ceiling of 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ cash, f.o.b. to beekeepers. Details by States follow:

Colorado. Moisture conditions improved on the Western Slope with both rain and quite heavy snow during the past two weeks. In the eastern portion of the State there has been considerable moisture and some quite cold temperatures. In the central and eastern parts of the State bees did not appear in quite as good a condition as they did a month ago. Zero and sub-zero weather during early March and cool weather later has retarded broodrearing and resulted in some loss of brood. For the State as a whole winter losses do not appear to have been heavy, however. Many colonies have small clusters of bees. In some sections there has been some lack of pollen. When pollen becomes available it is expected that bees will build up rapidly. Honey plants, such as clovers, dandelion, and other early blooming weeds, are in good condition but it is expected that high, dry winds may have caused some damage to fruit buds.

Wyoming. The northern part of the State had considerable cold, stormy weather during March. In some sections the worst storm for this season of the year in a great many years was experienced. Some feel this may cause considerable loss of bees, although the storm was preceded by a few days of warm weather which enabled bees to fly. Also, there was good snow coverage at the time. For the State as a whole moisture conditions are now unusually good. In southern Wyoming bees have wintered well, but considerable feeding will be necessary to carry bees through to the dandelion flow early in May.

Montana. A week of extremely cold weather after the middle of the month caused some losses among bees. Most of the loss was due to separation of the cluster from food stores. Some apiaries report a 10 to 15 percent loss to date. Bees were able to fly on a number of days after the 25th. Most colonies seem well supplied with honey and some show brood in one or two frames.

Idaho. Most of March has been unseasonably cold and it now looks like the season will be somewhat later than normal. However, a little pollen should be available soon. Such examinations of yards as have been made indicate that bees have wintered fairly well although some are short of stores and many will require early feeding.

Utah. Bees had a short flight just before the middle of the month. It then turned cold and bees were confined until close to the end of the month. There is some shortage of stores, but no signs of early starvation. Some feeding will be necessary as soon as weather permits. A little brood was in evidence.

Nevada. In the northwestern part of the State the latter part of March was cool with considerable rain. Bees have apparently wintered fairly well although weather has prevented close examination of hives. Ample moisture assures a good growing season.

ARIZONA:--

In the Salt River Valley the citrus flow is now in full swing. Bees should build up quite well on this but seldom is much surplus obtained from the citrus crop in this section. The wild currant yielded heavily for a few days only and then dried up. Some cloudy weather with wind has interfered to a certain extent with bee activity. A very few sales were reported, with single 60s Alfalfa-Mesquite at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA:--

Northeast Texas. Unseasonable cool weather, with a number of strong "northerns" retarded bee activity well into the latter half of March. Considerable damage was reported to fruit blossoms, especially peaches and plums, with little damage to apples or pears. Horsenint and sweetclover plants appear to be in good condition. Bees have obtained some pollen from willow, but so far nothing beyond a little pasturage. In the better kept yards bees wintered fairly well and no great amount of feeding is expected to be necessary. In other yards some feeding will be necessary and some losses may be expected if bees are not fed early.

East Texas. The middle of March was very cold, windy, and dry for this section. Bees are running short of stores and some starvation may be expected unless weather and moisture conditions improve so as to bring on early blooming plants. While a good rain fell on the 24th the drought is becoming quite serious. Package bee and queen orders continue to come in. Nearly all shippers are booked far beyond their producing capacity for the balance of the season.

Southeast Texas. Temperatures fell close to the freezing point on several nights shortly after the middle of the month. High winds and cool, cloudy weather during most of the time have prevented bees from taking full advantage of berry and other bloom which was quite abundant. Practically all colonies now require some feeding to prevent starvation. Weather conditions have handicapped queen breeders to such an extent that it now seems impossible to get all early orders moving on time.

Lower Rio Grande Valley. Drought conditions prevailed up to the 24th with strong south winds sapping the ground of moisture. On the night of the 25th a good rain gave temporary relief from the drought. Bees are making good progress in broodrearing. Strong colonies have from 50 to 80 pounds of Citrus honey in the supers. It is generally estimated that the citrus flow is a little better than half over. Mesquite is blooming and bees are gathering a little nectar from it, but right now citrus is more attractive. The amount of honey that may

be obtained from mesquite is still problematical. Extracting of surplus from the citrus flow began in a limited way around the end of the month. Queen rearing is in full swing, with all shippers booked to capacity and turning down many orders.

Southwest Texas. Colonies are building up slowly on pollen from elm, black brush, flax, and some other early plants. Continued cold weather has delayed the blooming of huajillo and catsclaw. Rain is needed over this entire area if early flowers are to produce to best advantage.

New Mexico. In the Mesilla Valley the weather continues dry and windy. However, bees in the foothills that can reach wild flowers are building up rapidly. Bees in the middle of the Valley are not doing much. Losses from cotton dusting last fall continue to be reported. Some estimates now indicate a 15 to 25 percent loss, with many more colonies so weak that they will be unable to build up for the first heavy flow. In the middle Rio Grande Valley honey plants are in good condition but grasshoppers are a menace.

Oklahoma. Honey-producing plants are in need of moisture. Cool weather has prevented bees from working what few pollen plants survived the heavy freeze of early March. Food consumption was heavy during the winter and feeding of 10 to 15 percent of the colonies will be necessary.

Arkansas. This period was too cool and wet to permit much bee activity.

PLAINS AREA: -

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. Severe winter weather with heavy snow continued into the latter half of March. In some localities bees have not had a good flight since December and in such areas rather heavy losses are anticipated. Due to the long winter consumption of stores has been heavy. Heavier than normal early feeding is anticipated by many beekeepers. A few sales were reported, with extracted Sweetclover in case to ton lots at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb., f.o.b.

Iowa. Much of the latter part of March was cold with considerable snow. The snowfall in the western part of the State was greatly needed to improve moisture conditions. Some loss of early brood is expected as a result of the cold. Reports of winter losses are extremely variable. Some beekeepers expect only around 10 percent losses, which are not abnormal, while others anticipate as high as 40 or 50 percent and in some isolated cases even heavier losses. Many colonies are short of stores and heavy early feeding will be necessary in most yards. Plant conditions look favorable and moisture conditions are good although in the western part of the State some additional sub-soil moisture would be very beneficial.

Kansas. Cold weather during most of March has prevented any except very short flights. Precipitation during March was only about half of normal, and unless good rains fall during April and May top production from honey plants cannot be expected. While colony conditions appear favorable, many hives are short of stores necessitating considerable feeding. A little growth on white clover and sweetclover plants has been observed.

Nebraska. Zero and sub-zero weather on a number of days proved quite hard on bees. However, a good snowfall was beneficial to honey plants. Some losses of bees were reported from the cold and some additional loss from starvation or inability of bees to arrange their stores in the hive after being removed from the collars. Considerable early feeding appears necessary and some beekeepers are now feeding sugar. Some concern is being shown in Nebraska over the prospects of additional acreages of sweetclover being ploughed up and turned to other crops.

Missouri. Most of this period was cool, with a mixture of rain, snow, ice, and sleet. While bees were confined most of the time they were able to make a few short flights. Such reports as we have indicate that bees have come through the winter fairly well with no more than normal losses. Considerable brood is evident in many hives.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES:-

Michigan. On the Northern Peninsula most bees are stored in collars. Many are becoming restless, and a little feeding of cellar-packed bees has become necessary. The snow cover is still heavy, with drifts of three to six feet. Southern Peninsula weather was cold around the middle of the month but toward the end of the month was warm enough for bees to obtain short flights especially in the southern part of the State. Much of the Lower Peninsula still has a good snow cover. With the heavy snow cover which held during most of the winter plant and moisture conditions should be unusually favorable. While honey supplies are quite closely cleaned up, a recent increased demand for small packages on the part of producers indicates that some honey still remains in producers' hands and is being sold directly to retailers or consumers. A few sales of extracted honey were reported f.o.b., per lb. at the ceiling of 12¢ for White Clover in single 60s to ton lots, and 5-lb. pails of White Clover and Mixed Flowers mostly around 16¢ per lb., with some as high as 20¢ per lb. While a little beeswax remains in the hands of producers no sales were reported.

- continued -

Wisconsin. Weather during most of March was very cold for this season of the year. In the western part of the State zero weather with unusually high winds drove the cold through many hives which were not well packed. Losses are now expected to be considerably heavier than previously anticipated. However, a fairly heavy snow cover together with the cold weather has prevented any close examination of colonies other than those packed in cellars. There is still considerable evidence of dysentery and noseema. With the heavy snow cover plant and moisture conditions should be unusually favorable. However, there is a question in the minds of some beekeepers as to whether colonies will be in prime condition to take full advantage of the early flows. Some beekeepers have had trouble in obtaining sufficient package bees to replace all their losses. A few sales were reported on the following basis f.o.b. per lb. extracted White Clover in single 60s to ten lots 12-15¢, mostly 12¢; in small pails 13-22¢, mostly 18-19¢; Amber Mixed Flowers case to ten lots 11¢.

Minnesota. The weather was extremely cold and stormy until the last few days of the month. Around the 15th a heavy sleet storm covered the southern portion of the State. This was followed by a heavy snowfall which was extremely heavy in the northeastern part of Minnesota. High winds drove zero temperatures through many hives. Colony losses are expected to be very heavy as a result of this cold, windy weather. No examinations have been possible during the latter part of March, but some beekeepers feel that losses may run the highest of any year since 1936. Most of these losses were due to starvation since consumption of food stores was unusually heavy during most of March. It is still too early to ascertain whether the sleet storm caused any damage to the clover crop. Until the time of this storm condition of honey producing plants was considered good. Moisture conditions should be unusually favorable. Very little honey is available and only a few sales were reported at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Ohio. The latter part of March was generally cool and rainy over most of Ohio. Losses from dead colonies do not now look like they will exceed 10 percent, but a great many colonies are very weak, especially in the northern part of the State. Many colonies are being united. Other beekeepers plan to add bees to weak colonies in order that they may build up in time for the early flow. Despite winter losses and weakness of many colonies bees came through the winter in better condition than was anticipated last fall. Most colonies went into the winter in rather poor condition and somewhat light in stores. Some feeding is now being done. Heavy freezing and thawing during much of March caused some heaving of clover and other honey plants. The exact amount of damage cannot yet be determined, although it is believed the damage will not be excessively heavy. Pollen from willow, maple, and elm will be available in the northern part of the State within the next few days. A few small lots of extracted honey were sold. Extracted - Amber Clover in case to ten lots at 12¢ per lb., White Clover in 5-lb. pails 15¢ per lb. and in 1-lb. glass jars 23¢. Small lots of beeswax moved at the ceiling levels of 41½¢ per lb. cash, and 43½¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Indiana. Most of this period was fairly mild, with considerable rain. Freezing nights and thawing days have caused considerable heaving of plants. Sweetclover and alfalfa were most seriously affected, with alsike and Dutch white clover somewhat less affected. It seems probable that some winter wheat will have to be disked up and seeded to oats or other grains. This may somewhat cut the clover acreage for this season as well as next year. Winter losses have apparently been quite light except in those yards which were extracted too closely last fall and insufficient food stores were left. The only sale reported in this area was of White Clover in 5-lb. pails at 16¢ per lb., f.o.b.

Illinois. In the western and northern portions of the State much of this period was cold with considerable rain which kept bee activity more or less at a standstill. Estimates as to winter losses are extremely variable, running from practically nothing to as high as 50 percent in some yards where hives were short of winter stores. A high percentage of the colonies are now short of stores and will require considerable feeding. Honey producing plants appear to be in fairly good condition at this time. Broodrearing has been moderate to fairly heavy in some sections so that special attention will be required to prevent starvation of colonies. The only sale reported was Amber Clover in single 60s at 10¢ per lb.

Kentucky. This was a period of excessive rainfall over much of Kentucky. There was some loss of bees in flooded areas. Although bees were confined much of the time, pollen was available from elm and early blooming ornamentals. In many colonies stores are low and some loss is being reported from starvation.

NORTHEASTERN STATES:

New York. Many colonies were removed from cellars during this period. However, in some sections temperatures are still too low to permit safe removal. A number of commercial beekeepers have had a chance to examine a large percentage of their colonies. In general they are wintering better than had been expected, especially where time and labor were not available last fall to properly pack for winter. Very few colonies show signs of dysentery. Losses among the small sideline beekeepers who failed to give their colonies proper attention last fall are fairly heavy. In the southern part of the State bees had a number of good flights and in some sections were able to gather a little pollen from maple. Freezing

and thawing may have caused some damage to clover plants. It is believed that such damage will not be excessive. Almost no honey remains in the hands of beekeepers. The only sales reported consisted of one lot of 5-lb. pails White Clover at 18¢ per lb., and a few cases of section comb honey, grade not specified, at \$4.00 per case.

Vermont. Weather moderated sufficiently in northern Vermont so that bees had their first real flights during this period. It is still too early to ascertain how bees came through the winter. A few sales of Clover in 5-lb. pails were reported at 20¢ per lb.

Connecticut. Strong, cool winds have prevented much bee flight, although bees have on a few days brought in small amounts of pollen. Winter losses so far do not appear to have been excessive. Demand continues heavy for honey but the supply is being rapidly exhausted and no sales were reported.

New Jersey. In north Jersey bees with ample stores and good clusters have come through the winter fairly well. Some colonies which were weak last fall have died.

Pennsylvania. Cool, rainy weather prevented any great amount of bee activity during this period, although on a number of warm sunny days bees could fly for a few hours. Maple is in bloom, but little pollen has been gathered so far. Broodrearing is becoming more active. Winter losses have been light among those colonies which were strong last fall and well packed. Losses have been fairly heavy among the colonies that went into the winter in poor shape or were not well cared for. Alternate freezing and thawing has been detrimental to the clover crop, with some heaving reported. The peach crop suffered from cold.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES:-

Maryland. The early part of this period was cool and rather rainy. The latter part was mild enough to permit considerable activity. A heavy wet snow during the forepart of the period added to the already very favorable moisture supplies. Bees have gathered some pollen from maple, elm, and miscellaneous early shrubs. A very little nectar is also being gathered, but insufficient to make feeding unnecessary in those colonies which were light in stores. Brood-rearing has progressed very satisfactorily, with some of the better colonies having brood on as many as six or seven frames.

Virginia. Colonies which were not robbed too closely last fall now appear to be in about normal condition. On the other hand, colonies which were extracted too heavily last fall will show a little higher than average winter losses. Several cold spells during the latter part of March have slowed up honey production and broodrearing slightly. While bees were confined much of this time by cool, wet weather, some pollen and a little nectar was stored from maple and other early blooming shrubs. No honey sales were reported, but sales of beeswax were reported at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash, and 43¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

North Carolina. Most of March was unseasonably cool which set back bees somewhat. In the Piedmont and mountain areas many colonies are light in stores and considerable loss is anticipated unless heavy feeding is resorted to. In the eastern part of the State bees wintered somewhat better, and are obtaining abundant supplies of pollen and a little nectar. The nectar flow should increase quite rapidly as soon as the weather warms up. Some increase in operations is anticipated among commercial beekeepers.

South Carolina. Weather during most of this period has been adverse to bees. Cold temperatures killed some weak colonies. Peach and wild plum bloom has been available, but frosts severely damaged this bloom. Apples were just beginning to bloom at the end of the month.

SOUTHEASTERN STATES:-

Georgia. Warm weather during the first half of this period brought a number of pollen plants into bloom and queens again became very active on the arrival of fresh pollen. Toward the end of the period colder weather with temperatures near the freezing point on several days again delayed broodrearing somewhat. Frost during late February and early March delayed ti-ti and killed some of the early bloom. This plant is now in full bloom. However, it is expected that the ti-ti flow will not run more than 40 or 50 percent of normal. Many colonies which were heavy in brood and young bees are consuming heavily of their surplus and many colonies are being fed large quantities of sugar in order to build up bees to fill the heavy flood of orders for package bees and queens. Most honey plants now appear in fairly good condition considering earlier damage from cold.

Florida. The ti-ti flow which was about three weeks late was fairly good between the 15th and 20th. However, cool weather beginning around the 20th slowed up the flow and it is now problematical as to just what can be expected from this source. The orange flow is in full swing in southern Florida, while in the northern part of the State full bloom has not yet been reached in all groves. So far the surplus from orange has been rather light. Forest fires in some sections destroyed much of the gallberry. In south Florida pennyroyal was practically a failure. Queen rearing progressed slowly due to the cold weather. Orders for queens and packages continue the heaviest in many years.

Alabama. Excessive rain and cold has prevented bees from flying freely during much of this period. Considerable feeding has been necessary. Ti-ti has been yielding heavily on good days in the southern part of the State, and bees are gathering some nectar and pollen from willow, redbud, and fruit blossoms in other sections. However, the weather has prevented the building up of any surplus. Demand for packages continues heavy with most shippers either booked to capacity or able to take orders for late May delivery only.

Mississippi. Colony populations are heavy, with plenty of brood. Cold weather has slowed up the flow from ti-ti. In some yards bees are close to starvation, and considerable feeding will be necessary unless warmer weather comes soon.

Louisiana. Bees are in excellent condition in southern Louisiana and there have been abundant supplies of pollen available. In some yards there has been sufficient nectar to supply daily needs while in others the cool weather and rain which prevailed during much of this period kept bees inactive. Cool weather has curtailed brood and queen rearing operations. Heavy feeding of sugar has been necessary to maintain colonies and nuclei during the cold spell. At the end of the month plants were blooming again but bees were unable to take full advantage of the flow. Honey plants are in good condition, and soil moisture is abundant. A little clover is blooming in the pastures of southern Louisiana. In the northern portion of the State cold weather with rain and high winds has kept bees confined during much of the past two weeks and resulted in a high consumption of stores.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the last of March. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: No arrivals. No supplies on market. No sales reported.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by rail origin not specified 1 car; l.c.l. 411 lbs. Wyo., by truck 420 lbs. Ill.

EXTRACTED: Practically no supplies on the market. No sales reported.

BEESWAX: Occasional available lot offered with dealers paying 41¹/₂-43¹/₂¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

CLEVELAND: No supplies on market. No sales reported. Nothing offered by brokers.

DENVER: Receipts: approximately 76,000 lbs. Colo. extracted. Demand good, market firm. Sales mostly direct to retailers from wholesalers. Packaging has been reduced mostly to small packages.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers- COLORADO, White to Water White Alfalfa and White Sweetclover cases, 12, 2-lb. glass \$4.50-4.70; 12, 2¹/₂-lb. glass \$5.30-6.90; 12, 24-oz. glass \$3.35-3.65; 24, 1-lb. glass \$4.70-5.00; 24, 8-oz. \$2.55-2.75.

BEESWAX: Receipts approximately 1400 lbs. Colo. Demand moderate, market steady. Dealers paying Domestic Crude 41¹/₂¢ per lb.

DETROIT: Receipts: extracted, by rail, 12,000 lbs. Mich., 18,000 lbs. Wis. Supplies light. Demand good, market firm at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: Sales by bottlers to chain stores and jobbers - WISCONSIN, 1-lb. jars per doz. White \$2.28. MICHIGAN, White, per doz., 1-lb. \$2.50-2.36; 8-oz. \$1.45. No sales reported under new ceilings.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, 600, 60-lb. cans Minn. White Sweetclover.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand good, market firm. Sales to bakers, baker supply houses and confectioners - MINNESOTA, Light Amber to White \$8.70-8.90 per 60-lb. can. Sales to wholesale grocers - MINNESOTA, U. S. No. 1 Blended 24, 16-oz. jars \$4.80; 24, 6-oz. jars \$1.95; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.40. Sales to retail grocers- MINNESOTA, 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.40; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.70; 12, 6-oz. jars \$2.30.

COLO: Sales to wholesale grocers - MINNESOTA, White Sweetclover in window cartons cellophane-wrapped 14-15-oz. very few sales \$5.10. To retail grocers - very few sales \$6.00.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: 46,531 lbs. Ohio, 180 lbs. Fla., 470,688 lbs. and 7 cars origin not specified. Demand good, market firm. Very few jobbing sales.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers, bakers and manufacturers - FLORIDA, White Tupelo 16-16¹/₂¢. IMPORTED, barrels and cans, Light Amber 13-13¹/₂¢, Extra Light Amber 14-14¹/₂¢. OHIO, 2-lb. jars White Clover, manufacturers price to jobber \$4.80 per doz. Sales by brokers - IMPORTED 12¢, some 11¹/₂¢, duty paid basis port of entry.

BEESWAX: Supplies very light. Sales by receivers (basis port of entry) - SOUTH AMERICA, WEST INDIES and CUBA, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢; non-sun-bleachable 41¹/₂¢. AFRICA 37¹/₂¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Arrivals: by truck 2400 lbs. origin not known. Dealers unable to get supplies. No offerings. No prices available.

PITTSBURGH: No arrivals by rail or truck. No offerings. Dealers and brokers unable to obtain supplies.

PORTLAND: Receipts: extracted, by motor truck - Oregon, Mixed Flowers, 50 cases 2½-lb. jars, 24 cases 8-oz. jars. Supplies very light, market strong.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots - OREGON, Mixed Flowers 12, 2½-lb. glass jars \$5.60-6.00; 12, 24-oz. \$3.75; 24, 8-oz. \$3.70.

BEESWAX: Market steady. Dealers paying 41½¢ per lb.

ST. LOUIS: Receipts very light. Market nominally steady. No sales reported.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND AND ALAMEDA: Receipts: by truck, Central California 58 cases Light Amber, Mixed Flowers; beeswax 1,981 lbs.; Northern California 290 cases White Thistle.

EXTRACTED: The following quotations are from bottlers to wholesalers and other case lot buyers - CALIFORNIA, White Orange, Saffron, Thistle, per doz., 5-lb. cans \$10.12-10.60; 5-lb. glass jars \$10.00-11.50; 2-lb. glass jars \$4.30-4.90; 1½-lb. glass jars \$3.50-3.70, few \$4.10; 1-lb. glass jars \$2.45-2.50, few \$3.00; 12-oz. glass jars \$2.00-2.17, few \$2.40; 8-oz. glass jars \$1.32-1.47.

BEESWAX: Trading in beeswax has been very light, with demand good. Delivered Bay Cities via truck - CALIFORNIA, 41½¢ f.o.b. shipping point basis.

SEATTLE: Receipts: 1 car Calif.; no truck receipts reported. Demand good, supplies practically exhausted, market firm at ceiling levels.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case-lots - WASHINGTON-IDAHO, Alfalfa-Sweetclover, Light to Extra Light Amber, 60-lb. cans \$9.13-10.00; 12, 5-lb. pails - none available; 12, 42-oz. jars \$5.91; 24, 24-oz. jars \$7.55-8.00; 24, 20-oz. \$6.25-6.90; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.10-5.70; other size jars not quoted. WASHINGTON, Creamed Honey 24, 14-oz. cups \$5.25; 24, 40-oz. cups \$13.85.

Released April 3, 1945.

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Washington, D. C.
April 15, 1943.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - NO. 598

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS (First half of April)

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted.)

SUMMARY

The fore part of April was the first period when temperatures permitted activity on the part of bees or general work in the bee yards over most of the country. Except in the Northeast and the far Southwest most of the principal agricultural sections of the country were considerably warmer than normal. Throughout practically the entire area between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains the weekly mean temperatures during the second week of April were from five to ten degrees or more above normal. From the Potomac Valley northward and the eastern Lake Region eastward unseasonably cold weather prevailed with little precipitation. Vegetation in this section is decidedly backward and more moisture and higher temperatures are needed. Substantial rainfall was rather general through the valleys and the central and southern Great Plains. In the center of the Great Plains where drought conditions have prevailed for some time the showers were sufficient to bring effective relief and this with the accompanying favorable warmth greatly improved the outlook in this district. Favorable rains were reported in central and northern Texas except the extreme northwest, throughout nearly all Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, southern South Dakota, Wyoming and eastern Colorado. Except in the extreme northern group of States from Montana eastward bees were able to work a good portion of the time. In the more northern States little is available except a little pollen from the most early blooming trees and shrubs. In the central belt extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific Coast considerable pollen and some nectar is available from early season trees and shrubs, dandelion, and fruit bloom. In the southern belt wild flowers are blooming extensively and in many of these States bees have built up some surplus. Some White Clover honey has been reported from Louisiana. In Southern California citrus is beginning to bloom while in Texas and Florida the citrus flow is now around the peak. For the country as a whole winter losses may run a little heavier than normal. The unseasonably cool weather that prevailed during much of March killed considerable brood and chilled some other. In the northern plains area and northcentral section there was some starvation and dwindling of colonies due to this March cold.

Shipment of packages and queens is becoming active from the South. Cool March temperatures somewhat retarded the early buildup but colonies in the early package shipping area now appear quite favorable. Nearly all southern package and queen producers are booked to capacity for this season. The shortage of labor has been serious in the package producing area. This has been especially true among queen raisers.

Very little honey is available in any section of the country. A little surplus is being produced in some of the extreme southern areas but any small amounts that have been extracted have largely been used locally. Practically all sales of honey have been at ceiling levels. Ceiling prices have also prevailed on practically all sales of beeswax.

Regulations limiting the amount of honey that may be used in the manufacture of food products and the administration of manufacturers' quotas were transferred from the War Production Board to the Food Distribution Administration on April 6. To put the order into effect the Director of Food Distribution issued Food Distribution Order No. 47.1, providing that during the three-month period ending June 30, 1943, and during each subsequent three-month period, no firm or individual may use in manufacturing other products more than 600 pounds or 120 percent of the quantity of honey so used by him during the corresponding three-month period of 1941, whichever is greater. A purchaser who buys 10,000 or more pounds of honey in one month for manufacturing purposes must report such purchase within ten days after the close of such month, by letter, to the Director of Food Distribution, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., specifying the seller, the amount purchased, and the intended use of the honey.

Members of the honey trade met with officials of the Office of Price Administration on Monday, April 12, to discuss the imported honey situation. In the light of these discussions OPA is revising that portion of Amendment 4 to Maximum Price Regulation 275, which deals with imported honey.

CALIFORNIA POINTS:-

Southern California. Variable weather conditions prevailed in southern California during the first half of April, with considerable cloudiness, wind, and a limited amount of rainfall. Flying weather was not too favorable during part of this time. The orange flow is increasing and given favorable weather conditions during the remainder of April bees should have ample opportunity to gather a large crop of orange honey. In some sections prospects are that the orange bloom will be the heaviest in a number of years. Honey plants are in good condition, with sage and buckwheat unusually good at this time. A little swarming has been reported although to date this has not been serious. Demand for honey continues unusually active, with available supplies extremely light. All sales by beekeepers were reported at the ceiling of \$14.40 per case of 120 lbs., f.o.b. country points, regardless of color or flavor. Some contracts for new Orange crop honey have been signed at the ceiling price at time of delivery. Delivery date is "soon as marketable after extracting". Limited amounts of beeswax are still moving at the ceiling of 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash or 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. country points.

Imperial Valley. Warm weather prevailed during most of this period although a few days of cool, windy weather kept bees confined. Colonies have built up well on flax and are showing large brood nests. Some nectar is being obtained from sour clover, arrow weed, salt cedar, melons, and a little early alfalfa. To date little surplus has been obtained. The acreage of alfalfa has been cut down in favor of beets and flax. Some bees are being moved from the Valley to the orange districts.

Central California. During the first week of April the weather was cold and windy with some rain in both valley and coastal regions. During the latter part of the period weather was more favorable. In some of the more favored districts bees are holding their own and in a few cases making a little surplus. In other sections feeding has been necessary. The orange flow is just beginning. Considerable mustard is available in the orange districts so some mixture of these flavors may be expected. Some colonies are being moved to the sage districts. A little new crop honey is expected around the first of May. Sales by producers ton lots or more delivered interior valley points - White Clover 12¢ per lb., Amber Eucalyptus 10¢ per lb. Beeswax 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Northern California. Most colonies are strong, but some adverse weather has prevented them from taking full advantage of the flow and some colonies are rather short in stores. Some nectar and pollen is being obtained from manzanita, mustard, Ladino clover, and various deciduous fruits and wild flowers. There has been some movement of bees from the orchard districts to the hill sections for manzanita. This movement has probably been lighter than normal. Moisture and plant conditions are now unusually favorable. Only a few sales of honey were reported, with sales by producers in ton lots or more delivered Bay Cities by truck - White Thistle 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ -12 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ per lb.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST:-

West of Cascades. In southern Oregon the weather has been favorable for bee activity and considerable pollen and some nectar are being obtained from manzanita, wild turnip, and deciduous fruit bloom. In northwestern Oregon and southern Washington the season is two to three weeks late because of cold rains during late March and early April. Vegetation, however, is making an excellent growth. Toward the close of this period warm clear weather permitted bees to gather considerable pollen and nectar from maple, golden willow, dandelion, and deciduous fruits. In general colonies are strong. No swarming has as yet been reported. The acreage of vetch is somewhat lighter than normal due to an unfavorable planting season last fall. A small lot of new crop Light Amber Manzanita honey was sold in southern Oregon at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb., f.o.b.

East of Cascades. The season in eastern Oregon and Washington is somewhat late so that bee activities have been delayed. However, broodrearing is now well under way. Some feeding has been necessary. In the Yakima Valley apricots were in bloom on April 6, and other fruit bloom was coming on rapidly. Many bees have been moved to the orchard sections for fruit pollinization.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION:-

Springlike weather prevailed over nearly all the Intermountain area. In the Boise Valley of Idaho and in northern Utah apricots are in full bloom. In nearly all States in this area bees have been able to obtain some pollen. Most bees which were packed in cellars have been moved outside and those wintered outdoors are being unpacked. Such examinations as have been completed indicate losses have not been excessive and for the area as a whole will probably run between five and ten percent. In some yards spring feeding will be necessary while in many others sufficient stores are still available to carry the bees through to the early honey flow. Demand for honey has been unusually good, but very little is available and relatively few sales were reported. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted - car Wyoming White Clover 12¢; Clover-Alfalfa, case to ton lots 12¢, single 60s 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, small pails 13-14¢, 1-lb. glass jars 16¢; capping melter honey case to ton lots 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. Beeswax 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ -43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb., f.o.b. to beekeepers. Details by States follow: continued -

Colorado. The first few days of this period were warm and springlike but around the 8th and 10th of the month there was considerable rain with snow in the mountains. Due to cold weather during the latter half of March which damaged some brood, condition of colonies is generally not considered to be quite as good as in early March. In many hives the number of bees has diminished since that time. Many beekeepers have not yet completed examinations of their yards. What reports we have indicate that losses to date probably will not exceed ten percent. A little new pollen is beginning to come in and bees are again expanding brood. Plants appear to be in good condition. Moisture conditions are normal.

Wyoming. Most bees were brought out of the cellars during this period and many outdoor bees unpacked. Winter losses do not seem excessive probably running between five and ten percent. However, in some colonies where brood-rearing had begun in February some brood was lost during the cold weather of March. Moisture and plant conditions are quite favorable, although in some plains sections a little more moisture would be beneficial.

Montana. The severe winter period broke up around the end of March and during the first part of April bees were able to obtain the first pollen of the season from alder. Winter losses now look like they will run around five to ten percent in better kept yards and somewhat heavier in those yards where hives were not especially well protected. Many colonies have consumed stores more rapidly than usual so that heavy feeding will be necessary. Some, however, still have sufficient stores to carry them through to the dandelion flow. While it is a little early to determine the exact condition of plants, it is felt they should have come through the winter fairly well since there was a good snow cover during the cold months.

Idaho. Temperatures moderated during the first half of April and bees were quite active. Broodnests are being expanded and many hives now have from two to five frames of very well filled brood. In general bees are in good condition and in most yards little if any feeding will be required, although some beekeepers find feeding necessary. In the Boise Valley dandelions are just opening and apricots are in full bloom in the lower valley districts. Farther east in the State little has been available except some pollen from willow, poplar, and alder. Snows are melting in the higher altitudes, with some flood waters threatened in the Boise and Payette Valleys.

Utah. Early April was unseasonably warm. Bees have been actively gathering pollen from willow, dandelion and apricots which were in full bloom around the 10th. Some nectar also was gathered from apricots. Broodrearing has been unusually active. Bees in some sections are taking flour and dust from chopped grains much more readily than usual. This would indicate some shortage of pollen supplies. Robbing of weaker colonies has been reported. The northern part of the State is getting quite dry and more moisture is needed to put plants in best condition.

Nevada. Reports of State apiary inspectors indicate that bees have wintered well with not over a two percent loss for the State as a whole. Most colonies have ample stores provided normal spring weather prevails from now on. Rains continue and in western and northern Nevada rainfall to date is about normal.

ARIZONA:--

Most of southern Arizona is becoming quite dry. In the southeastern portion of the State cool weather has been unfavorable for bee activity. In southeast Arizona filaree is drying up, but should last until mesquite comes on in protected areas. In this section bees are building up rapidly and should be in good shape for the mesquite and catsclaw flow. In the Salt River Valley the citrus flow which is about over was somewhat better than usual. Bees will soon be moved to mesquite which will start blooming the last week of April. In the Yuma district mesquite is beginning to bloom. Only a few sales were reported with Mixed Flowers in small pails at 13¢ per lb., and 1-lb. glass jars 15¢ each.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA:--

East Texas. The weather has been ideal during the first two weeks of April. Bees are building up rapidly. The shipping season has started and most colonies are barely ready. Yaupon is yielding well. Recent rain has put clover plants in fairly good condition. Package and queen orders continue to come in at a rapid rate but practically all orders are being returned.

Southeast Texas. The weather has become settled and fairly warm. Bees are obtaining considerable new honey and plenty of pollen. Mesquite is in full bloom. Prospects now appear good for some surplus by May 1. All colonies are increasing in strength and some swarming is occurring. Most package shippers are booked to capacity for the remainder of this season.

Lower Rio Grande Valley. The honey flow in this section is increasing. Citrus continues to bloom. Mesquite is blooming well, and rattan is in full bloom. Extracting of citrus honey has begun. The crop of citrus honey will be somewhat shorter than was earlier anticipated and most will be consumed locally. Outside buyers are having little success in obtaining any quantities of citrus

honey in the valley. Shipment of package bees and queens is reaching the peak. Demand for packages continues fairly heavy but practically all producers are booked to capacity for the balance of the season.

Southwest Texas. The first real spring rain fell in the vicinity of San Antonio on April 7. This will help the spring flow although it may be a little late to insure a full flow. Due to the extremely dry weather which has prevailed in this section heavy feeding has been resorted to by most beekeepers. Many colonies, however, still have sufficient stores until the main flow.

Oklahoma. Broodrearing is in full swing. Some colonies will be strong enough for swarming by the latter part of the month. Recent showers in Central Oklahoma have put honey plants in good condition.

Arkansas. The weather during early April was warm and dry. Bees are bringing in some honey from fruit bloom. Honey plants are in generally good condition.

PLAINS AREA:--

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. Warm weather between April 1 and 10 cleared the ground of snow and bees have had several flights. Early examinations indicate that in most yards winter losses will be somewhat heavier than normal, possibly between 15 and 20 percent, although in some of the better kept yards they may not run more than 5 percent. Moisture conditions are better than normal. Clover has apparently come through the winter in good shape. A few sales were reported with White Clover in single 60s to ton lots at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb. and in small pails at 18¢ per lb., f.o.b.

South Dakota. Such reports as we have indicate heavy losses of bees from starvation during the winter. Colonies were unusually strong last fall with the result that stores were consumed at a very rapid rate during the early part of the winter. No reports have been received as to plant or moisture conditions.

Iowa. Mild weather permitted bees to work during most of this period. Some pollen has been gathered from maple, boxelder, and a little pollen and nectar from early fruit bloom. Winter losses among both cellar packed and outdoor wintered bees have been somewhat heavier than normal, running probably 10 to 12 percent in the better yards and as high as 35, and in some cases slightly higher, in those yards where bees were not too well packed or cared for. Some additional moisture is needed in the western portion of the State. Alternate freezing and thawing has caused some damage to Dutch white clover and alfalfa. Along the Missouri River some damage was caused from high water and heavy silt deposits.

Kansas. Weather during early April was dry, warm, and windy. Bees have gathered considerable pollen from box elder, maple and some other trees. Many colonies are now showing four to six frames of brood. Over the State as a whole stores are somewhat short and many beekeepers are feeding rather heavily. Plant conditions are fairly good and sub-soil moisture supplies are ample, but some rain is needed to ^{put} the surface soil in best condition.

Nebraska. Grass is turning green. Elm, maple, and willows are budding. Broodrearing is getting actively under way. Consumption of stores has been quite heavy and considerable sugar feeding will be necessary this spring. Considerable concern is being expressed over the large amount of sweetclover which is being ploughed under for other crops. In general prospects for bee pasture at this time are unfavorable. Showers during this period have relieved drought conditions, but considerable more rain is needed to put plants and the soil in prime condition for the coming season. The season as a whole is ten days to two weeks late. Winter losses have been somewhat heavier than normal and many colonies are weak. In some sections sizable losses were caused by the woolly woodpecker cutting holes in hives which allowed the entrance of robber bees during warm days.

Missouri. Weather conditions were ideal since the 25th of March. Most colonies have built up rapidly with many hives showing six to seven frames of brood. Considerable pollen and a little nectar have been stored. Winter losses have not been excessive for the State as a whole. Dandelion is now in full bloom and some fruit trees are blooming. Dutch white clover is coming along very nicely. While sub-soil moisture is ample some rain at this time would help young plants.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL:--

Michigan. Spring has been a little late in arriving on the Southern Peninsula, although it is gradually warming up. Few plants have budded out as yet although it is expected within the next few days some pollen will be available from willow and maple. Many beekeepers have started unpacking and have had the first real opportunity to make a thorough examination of their colonies. Reports as to winter losses are extremely variable. Indications are that for the State as a whole winter losses may run as high as 20 to 25 percent, with the best producers averaging considerably less, probably not more than 10 percent. Most of the winter loss was due to starvation. Some colonies still have fair quantities of stores, but some others will require early heavy feeding. Plants are in generally good condition although there has been some heaving of clover due to alternate freezing and thawing. On the Northern Peninsula most bees are

still in the cellars. Most seem to have wintered fairly well. However, heaviest losses often occur just after the bees are placed outside. Considerable feeding will be necessary when the bees are unpacked.

Wisconsin. Weather during the past two weeks has moderated to a point where bees can obtain a little pollen from maple and willow in the southern and southcentral portions of the State. Winter losses have been quite heavy, running from 25 to 50 percent in many cases, with the average for the State as a whole running possibly from a quarter to a third of the colonies. Considerable feeding is being done. Moisture conditions are good and clover seedings for the State as a whole appear quite favorable. Only a very few small lots of honey were reported sold with White Clover in single 60s at 15¢ per lb., and 1-lb. glass jars at 23¢.

Minnesota. The first half of April was quite mild, with very little rain. Temperatures in the 70s on a number of days permitted considerable activity on the part of the bees. Maples are blooming and nectar and pollen supplies have been quite heavy. This should help considerably on the matter of food for the bees. Winter losses are considerably heavier than normal due largely to the severe weather in March which followed a mild period in February when broodrearing had begun. It is expected that losses will run to around 25 percent for the State as a whole. Losses among small apiarists are in many cases considerably heavier. Most beekeepers are feeding quite heavily. Queens are actively laying, but broodrearing is around three weeks to a month later than normal. Clover and other early plants are in very good condition except in some scattered locations where the ground was bare during the cold spell in March. No honey sales were reported, but a few small lots of beeswax were sold at the ceiling of 41¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Ohio. Considerable freezing weather during early April has caused loss of much of the early pollen from maples and elms in northern Ohio, and little remains among the early bloom except dandelion. This alternate freezing and thawing has also caused considerable damage to clovers. Taken as a whole bees have wintered only fairly well. The number of dead colonies will probably not average more than 10 percent. On the other hand, a great many colonies which survived the winter are quite light in populations and considerable uniting or additions of package bees will be necessary. Considerable feeding will be necessary. The season as a whole is a little later than normal.

Indiana. Temperatures during early April were extremely variable, running from 20 to 30 degrees. There was little precipitation. Pollen has been available from soft maple, cottonwood, willow, and other early blooming trees. In the more northern portions of the State bees were unable to take full advantage of the maple and willow bloom because of cold weather. It now looks like fruit trees will bloom during the last week of April unless additional cold weather retards them. There was some loss of clover from heaving during February and March. However, in most sections the clovers are coming on fairly well. Actual winter losses will probably not average much over 10 percent, although some losses as high as 50 percent have been reported. Colonies are probably a little weaker than normal for this season.

Illinois. Weather was quite favorable during most of early April and bees were able to gather pollen and some nectar from maple, elm, poplar, cottonwood and dandelion. Early plum and apricots will soon bloom, and the main fruit bloom should begin within a week or ten days. There is plenty of soil moisture. Sweetclover and other early honey plants are showing up very well. Winter losses in most yards have been a little heavier than normal, running probably between 10 to 15 percent. Some of the better kept yards report losses less than 10 percent. Broodrearing has not been too active in most yards since fairly heavy broodrearing early in the season reduced winter stores somewhat. Considerable spring feeding will be necessary. Inquiries from commercial orchardist for bees for pollination are running somewhat heavier than normal.

NORTHEASTERN STATES:--

New York. The weather during early April was unseasonably cold, with a number of points reporting record lows for this season. Bees have been able to work on only a very few days. Practically nothing is available although in the southern part of the State a very little pollen has been gathered from maple. Clover has suffered some from alternate freezing and thawing, although it is still too early to determine just how extensive this loss has been. Colony conditions are extremely variable. Some beekeepers report that considering the length and severity of the winter bees came through quite well, while others report losses of as high as 50 percent with many weak colonies. Many beekeepers expect considerable dwindling even with heavy spring feeding. Broodrearing has been backward. Taken as a whole it now looks like very favorable conditions will have to exist if a high proportion of the colonies is able to build up in time for the main honey flow. A very few small lot sales were reported with extracted Clover Light Amber to Amber in single 60s 12¢ per lb., in small pails 15-18¢ per lb., and 1-lb. glass jars 17-25¢ each. Section comb Buckwheat No. 1 \$4.00 per case, and Amber Mixed Flowers \$3.75 per case.

Vermont. The weather continues cold, below freezing most of the time. In northern Vermont bees have wintered well in spite of cold weather, the only losses seem to be a few cases of starvation. No nectar or pollen is available and it is expected that it will be fully a week or two before the first pollen or nectar becomes available from maple and elm. Very little honey is available. A few sales of Clover in 5-lb. pails were reported at 20¢ a pound. Beeswax sold at 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeeper.

Connecticut. Cold high winds have prevented bees from working much of the time. On a few warm days they have been able to gather some pollen. Condition of most colonies is good, with fair populations and vigor. Some colonies will need feeding. The ground is getting rather dry on the surface and clover is in need of a good rain.

New Jersey. The spring has been quite backward, with frost nearly every night and cool days. Red maple and elm are beginning to bloom and bees are bringing in pollen when weather permits. In the northern part of the State broodrearing has been backward, with queens laying slowly. In southern New Jersey many hives are showing as high as six frames of brood. Early nectar-bearing plants suffered from a heavy freeze on April 7 and 8. Many beekeepers are feeding heavily and a number of colonies have already starved.

Pennsylvania. Continued freezing and thawing has heaved clover in the fields but has had little effect on the white clover in pastures. Cold during late March and early April has retarded bloom of elm and maple so that bees have obtained little if any pollen. Bees have been able to fly on only one or two days.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: --

Maryland. Considerable cool weather prevailed during early April although there were a number of days warm enough for bees to work. Frosts have apparently done little damage to honey plants. It has, however, resulted in some chilled brood in weak colonies. Pear, plum, and cherry have bloomed during this period and bees have gathered considerable additional pollen and some nectar from maple, elm, and mock orange. Most colonies came through the winter fairly well and are making normal progress in broodrearing. On the other hand, many weak colonies have dwindled away which has added considerable to the net loss.

Virginia. In the mountainous sections of this State the weather has been cool with considerable high wind which has caused heavy dwindling. Brood-rearing has been restricted by the cool weather and considerable feeding has been necessary. In the Tidewater section unsettled weather has slowed up laying and brood nests are rather small for this season. The honey flow in this section appears to be at least ten days later than last year. Despite considerable early spring feeding winter losses have been greater than usual. Plant prospects appear quite favorable.

West Virginia. The spring has been very late and cold. Colonies are building up slowly. Maples are blooming but it has been too cool and windy for bees to work much. Hard freezes during the last two weeks in the mountain sections have been hard on clover.

South Carolina. In the western part of the State the weather has continued unusually cool and unfavorable for bees. Fruit bloom has been irregular and scattered. Apples and wild cherries are blooming. Red bud is in full bloom. Consumption of stores has been unusually heavy and considerable feeding will be necessary.

SOUTHEASTERN STATES:-

Georgia. Temperatures during late March and the first few days of April held bees back. Much feeding has been done in southeast Georgia and it now appears that spring losses may run from 10 to 15 percent, due to lack of early pollen and nectar. Shortly after the first of April temperatures moderated and bees were able to make a living from ti-ti, black gum, and blackberry. Despite the late start it is expected that most colonies will build up in time for the main flow which is expected in about two weeks. Heavy orders for package bees continue to come in, but apparently all package and queen producers are booked to capacity for the season.

Florida. Colonies have been building up quite rapidly and bees are taking advantage of the orange flow which is now probably close to its height. Some reports indicate that the surplus from the orange flow this year may not be as heavy as normal. Palmetto is just beginning to bloom in south Florida.

Alabama. The first part of this period was cool, preventing free flight of bees and necessitating considerable feeding. Bees have been working on ti-ti when weather permitted, but due to the bad weather only about half a crop is expected from this source. Package bees began to move around the 5th of April and movement is rapidly picking up. Shortage of labor has caused considerable difficulty in the production of queens. A few sales of extracted Amber Mixed Flower honey were reported in case to ton lots at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb.

Louisiana. The weather was very favorable during early April with no rain and fairly high temperatures. Bees have gathered large amounts of pollen and nectar from willow, blackberry and white clover. Scale colonies are gaining from one to two pounds per day. Considerable swarming has been reported, especially in the southern part of the State. Very little honey is being taken off since most producers are anxious to have colonies build up well before they start extracting. Demand for early honey has been very good. Movement of package bees and queens is getting actively under way.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the middle of April. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: No arrivals reported. No supplies on market. No sales reported.

CHICAGO: Receipts: l.c.l. rail 274 lbs. Wyo.; by truck 2,520 lbs. Ill., 600 lbs. Wis.

COMB: Supplies very light. Demand moderate, market firm. Sales to retailers - ILLINOIS, cases cellophane-wrapped, small lot available White Clover \$6.00; Light Amber \$5.50.

EXTRACTED: Practically no supplies on market.

BEESWAX: Dealers' paying for occasional available lot 41¹/₂-43¹/₂¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

CLEVELAND: No supplies on market. No sales reported. Nothing offered by brokers.

DENVER: Receipts: approximately 12,000 lbs. Colo. extracted. Demand moderate, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers - COLORADO, White to Water White Alfalfa and White Sweetclover cases, 12, 2-lb. glass \$4.50-4.70; 12, 2¹/₂-lb. glass \$6.30-6.90; 12, 24-oz. glass \$3.35-3.55; 24, 1-lb. glass \$4.70-5.00; 24, 8-oz. \$2.55-2.75.

BEESWAX: Receipts approximately 2,000 lbs. Colo. Demand moderate, market weak. Dealers paying domestic crude 41-41¹/₂¢ per lb.

DETROIT: Receipts: extracted 6,750 lbs. Mich. Supplies light. Demand good, market firm at ceilings.

EXTRACTED: Sales by bottlers to chain stores - MICHIGAN, jars per 2 dozen, White 5-oz. \$2.02, 1 doz. lb. jars \$2.87; 4¹/₂-oz. \$1.15.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck extracted from Minn., 160, 60-lb. cans White Sweetclover; 4, 60-lb. cans Light Amber; comb and beeswax, no arrivals.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand very good, market firm at ceiling prices. Sales to bakers, baker supply houses and confectioners - MINNESOTA, Sweetclover, Light Amber to White \$8.70-8.90 per 60-lb. can. Sales to wholesale grocers - MINNESOTA, Sweetclover, U. S. 1 Blended honey 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.27; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.57. Sales to retail grocers - 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.59; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.93.

COMB: MINNESOTA, White Sweetclover in window cartons cellophane wrapped 14-15-oz.: Sales to wholesale grocers - very few sales \$5.10; sales to retail grocers - very few sales \$6.00.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: 63,640 lbs. Iowa; 5 cars and 226,540 lbs. origin not specified. Demand good, market unsettled. Very few jobbing sales.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers, bakers and manufacturers - IMPORTED, barrels and cans Light Amber 13-13¹/₂¢, Extra Light Amber 14-14¹/₂¢. Sales by brokers - IMPORTED, mostly 12¢, some 11¹/₂¢, duty paid, basis port of entry.

BEESWAX: Supplies very light. Sales by receivers, port of entry - SOUTH AMERICA, WEST INDIES and CUBA, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢, non-sun-bleachable 41¹/₂¢.

PHILADELPHIA: No arrivals. Dealers unable to get supplies. No offerings. No prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals rail and truck 636 lbs. bottled Midwestern. No offerings account dealers and brokers unable to obtain supplies.

PORTLAND: Receipts: via motor truck - from Oregon 200, 60-lb. cans of Manzanita; from Idaho 546 cases 5-lb. jars, 200 cases 2¹/₂-lb. jars, 100 cases 16-oz. jars. Supplies light. Market stronger.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots - IDAHO, Sweet-clover-Alfalfa, 12, 5-lb. jars \$11.96-12.52; 24, 2¹/₂-lb. jars \$6.33-6.60; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.89-6.15.

BEESWAX: Supplies light. Market firm. Prices nominally unchanged at 41¹/₂¢ per lb.

ST. LOUIS: Practically no offerings or trading. No sales reported.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND, AND ALAMEDA: Receipts by truck: Northern California 244 cases White Thistle; Central California beeswax 1,546 lbs.

EXTRACTED: Bottlers are now using new ceiling prices set forth in LPR 275, Amendment 4, of March 29, 1943.

SEATTLE: Receipts: 3,500, 60-lb. cans Idaho via truck. Supplies slightly replenished. Demand good, market firm.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots- WASHINGTON and IDAHO, Alfalfa-Sweetclover, Light to Extra Light Amber, 60-lb. cans \$9.15-10.00; 12, 5-lb. pails- none available; 12, 42-oz. jars \$3.91; 24, 24-oz. jars \$7.35-8.00; 24, 20-oz. \$6.25-6.90; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.10-5.70; other size jars not quoted. WASHINGTON, Creamed Honey 24, 14-oz. cups \$5.25-5.75; 24, 40-oz. cups \$13.86.

HONEY STORAGE IN CANADA

(from Dominion Department of Agriculture Marketing Service, Ottawa, Canada, 4/8/43)

Following are honey storage holdings in pounds as of April 1, 1943, together with comparative figures for 1942:

	CONSUMER CONTAINERS		BULK CONTAINERS	
	1942	1943	1942	1943
Halifax	2,300	-	-	-
Saint John	2,300	#1,500	-	-
Quebec City	4,150	-	11,310	-
Montreal	135,967	3,420	24,070	-
Ottawa	11,244	-	10,290	-
Toronto	365,335	70,400	193,966	284,920
Winnipeg	248,814	134,600	40,943	20,160
Regina	50,448	-	-	-
Saskatoon	34,035	-	-	-
Edmonton	79,648	21,404	-	-
Lethbridge	63,984	14,832	-	-
Medicine Hat	6,048	-	-	-
Calgary	112,032	-	-	-
Vancouver	259,748	39,449	49,838	281,356

For military camps.

BEEKEEPING -- A WAR JOB

(from a recent radio broadcast written by the Department of Agriculture)

So important does the Government consider beekeeping in wartime, that it included beekeeping among the essential types of farming.

It's not just that we need honey and beeswax. The big reason for this encouragement to beekeeping is that we need bees to pollinate alfalfa, clovers, and other crops to help set off seed. The U.S. Department of Agriculture explains that we need the legumes produced from this seed to keep up the fertility of the soil and to feed our huge herds of livestock.

Under the Selective Service regulations, a beekeeper should have about 400 colonies of bees which amounts to the 16 war units required for deferment of one worker. If he has fewer than 400 colonies of bees, he might fill out his 16 war units for deferment with chickens, dairy cows, or some other essential farm product. Of course, along with his beekeeping, a man would have time in the slack season to do gardening, or carpentry work -- or even to take a job in a war plant during the winter.

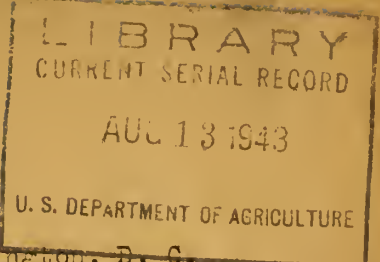
Another way to meet this problem of labor to look after the bees is to draw on the help of women and children. You can't turn the bees over to beginners to handle on their own. It takes years of experience to master beekeeping. But even a man working full-time in a war plant can supervise women and children in a lot of the work around the hives, in raising queens, in handling package bees, and in work in the honey house.

However, you manage it, try to keep your bees working throughout the war. It's not just the honey and beeswax we need. Remember, that the bees help produce the legume seed for crops to keep up our soils for important war crops and to feed our flocks and herds to meet goals for milk, butter, eggs and meat.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Food Distribution Administration

Telephone - REpublic 4142,
Branch 2176.

Washington, D. C.
May 1, 1943.



SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - NO. 599

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

SUMMARY

In the western portion of the country temperatures during this period were somewhat above normal, while in the eastern half and into the southeast temperatures continued below normal. In all sections except the Intermountain Region and Southwest the spring has been backward - in most areas about ten days to two weeks. It now looks like colony losses in the Plains Area, North-central and Northeastern States will be considerably heavier than normal. The late spring and unfavorable weather which has kept bees confined much of the time in these areas has necessitated considerable spring feeding. In these areas many package bees are being obtained from the South to build up colony populations. However, many beekeepers are finding it very difficult, if not impossible, to obtain sufficient packages to take care of all their needs. Such packages as have been received in the North to date have come through in good condition. Cool weather in the southern package and queen producing area has retarded the build-up of colonies to such an extent that some orders could not be moved on time. However, most shipments are moving quite close to schedule. In the Intermountain Region and California bees have built up colony strength quite rapidly. In California the citrus flow is now at its height, or possibly slightly past, and has been quite favorable. For the country as a whole plant conditions appear fairly good. Moisture conditions are generally favorable. Some portions of Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona are quite dry. Portions of the southern Plains Area need additional moisture to put plants in prime condition. In the mountain areas of the west, with the exception of the Western Slope of Colorado, there is a heavy snow cover which should insure plentiful irrigation water. The shortage of labor is still a disturbing factor among beekeepers. Demand for bees and equipment has been especially good from small amateur and beginning beekeepers. Some large commercial producers feel that the shortage of labor will force the larger beekeepers into extensive rather than intensive operations. Less individual attention may be given to many yards or colonies which could result in a decreased colony yield. Very little old crop honey is left and the small quantities of new crop honey so far extracted have mostly moved in local channels. The market on all honey is nominally at the ceiling. Beeswax prices also held at ceiling levels.

Although the amounts involved are too small to interest most beekeepers, some commercial beekeepers who buy large quantities of sugar for feeding their bees may be interested in the fact that according to Section 3494 A of the Internal Revenue Code sugar tax refunds can be obtained by beekeepers the same as by other farmers feeding sugar to livestock. If the sugar used for feeding is fully refined the tax refund amounts to 53½ cents per 100 pounds of sugar purchased; cruder sugar would merit a smaller refund. Appeals for this refund must be made on Form 843, which can be secured from any Collector of Internal Revenue, and must be filed within a year of feeding time to merit consideration. A few beekeepers have already been taking advantage of this provision of the law of the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

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CALIFORNIA POINTS:- (Period April 6-23)

Southern California. Weather conditions in southern California were rather unsettled. However, there were many bright days when bees were able to work on the orange flow, which is now at its peak. Early reports indicate that the orange flow may be lighter than earlier anticipated. While the volume of orange nectar has been abundant, the orange honey so far produced has been rather thin. Most colonies were at full strength for the orange flow, but some had to use a portion of this flow to build up. Swarming has been about normal. In the hill areas the sage crop is just beginning to bloom. Prospects for sage and wild buckwheat are now very favorable, as moisture conditions since the first of the year have been ideal. In the desert area around Blythe bees are working on mesquite. Demand for honey has been heavy, but it is not expected that any quantities of the new crop orange honey will be available for the market before May 10. Any small lot sales were nominally at the ceiling. Light offerings of beeswax sold at 41½¢ per lb. cash, and 43½¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. country points.

May 1, 1943.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - NO. 599

Central California. Weather during this period has been ideal with temperatures above normal. Rainfall was confined mostly to mountain and coastal areas. A good surplus is being built up from the orange flow especially in Tulare County. This flow was rapidly dropping off toward the close of the month. Many bees are now being moved into the sage districts, especially along the Coast Range. Sage looks especially good and other honey producing plants are in very favorable condition. Some swarming has been reported. Demand for honey is active, with buyers trying to pick up orange honey for delivery as soon as it is ready, which should be around the 10th of May. Old honey in bottlers' hands is practically exhausted and some bottlers are unable to fill present orders even by using smaller containers. Sales by producers ton lots or more delivered Bay Cities via truck - Light Amber Mixed Fruit Blossoms new crop 12-12½¢; per lb.

Northern California. Temperatures have been moderate, with the weather generally favorable for both plants and bees. Most colonies are in strong position to take advantage of the flow. In some sections the honey flow is considered only fair, while from Sonoma County reports come of the heaviest early crop of honey in years. Many bees have been moved to the mountains to take advantage of the flow from wild flowers and some colonies have been moved into the citrus sections. Poppy, alfilaria, wild onions, mustard, some species of eucalyptus, madrone, and many other annual spring flowers are now producing. The citrus flow in Northern California is just getting under way. Practically all plants are in good condition, with star thistle looking unusually promising. Sales by producers, ton lots or more, delivered interior valley points - per lb. White Thistle 12¢; Light Amber to Extra Light Amber Mixed Flowers 11-12¢; Extra Light Amber Manzanita new crop 12¢.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST:--(Period April 6-23)

West of Cascades. The season is generally ten days to two weeks later than normal in Western Oregon and Southwestern Washington. Intermittent showers have slowed down bee activity and some feeding has been necessary along the coast. When weather permitted bees in the lower altitudes west of the Cascades have worked on vine maple, dandelion, golden willow and chickweed. In the fireweed districts Oregon maple is yielding and vine maple should bloom around the 10th of May. Scotch broom is starting to bloom along the coast and in some inland sections. With the exception of apples, deciduous bloom is past. It now looks like most colonies will be ready for the beginning of the main vetch flow. The vetch crop will likely be below normal since only about 35-50 percent of a normal acreage was planted. A report of inspections in Marion and Linn Counties show about a 30 percent loss in small apiaries and 10-15 percent in commercial yards.

East of Cascades. The weather turned much warmer early in this period. In the Yakima and Wenatchee Valleys the fruit bloom came on rapidly and was very heavy. Those colonies which had built up sufficiently to take advantage of the fruit flow have done well. Toward the end of the period it turned somewhat cooler, but with the exception of apples the fruit bloom was just about over. Winter losses in some sections were heavier than earlier anticipated because of the failure of many queens during late March and early April. Some feel this may have resulted from the effects of poison spray last year. A report of inspections in Hood River and Wasco Counties, Oregon, indicate that possibly as many as 80 percent of the small lots of bees were winter-killed, although average losses in commercial yards were only around 10 percent.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION:-- (April 8-23)

Conditions over the Intermountain area were very favorable during this period. With the exception of northern Wyoming and Montana bees have been able to gather large amounts of pollen and nectar and have built up rapidly. Winter losses for the section as a whole have been fairly light. Except for a little loss of alfalfa and sweetclover in Montana and a little alfalfa from flooding in Idaho, plant conditions are now good. Moisture conditions are favorable, except on the Western Slope of Colorado and also the eastern plains section of Colorado, where some additional moisture is needed. Relatively few sales of honey were reported. Considerably more beeswax moved to market than during any recent period. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted-Alfalfa-Clover case to ton lots 12¢; single 60s 12-13¢, few 14¢; in 5-lb. pails 15-17¢; 1-lb. glass jars 17-20¢. Beeswax mostly 41½¢, few 42¢ per lb., f.o.b. to beekeepers. Details by States follow:

Colorado. This period was very favorable for colony development. The weather has been warm, pollen supplies have been plentiful, and there has been considerable nectar from dandelion and fruit bloom. On the Western Slope bees have mostly been unpacked. So far it appears losses will be light, except for loss of brood as a result of the March cold spell. Moisture conditions are none too favorable on the Western Slope. Last fall was extremely dry and the snowfall in the mountains during the winter was rather light. In the other mountain sections moisture conditions are quite favorable with a good snow cover. In the eastern plains section of the State it is rather dry and plant conditions look none too favorable.

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May 1, 1943.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - NO. 599

Wyoming. Although weather was quite cool during most of this period there were a number of days on which bees could work. Pollen and a little nectar are being obtained from willow. Dandelion should be in bloom shortly after the first of May. Considerable feeding has been done and more will be required if the weather continues cool. Winter losses will likely run between 10 and 20 percent. In general colony strength is now quite favorable, with two to five frames of brood.

Montana. Favorable weather prevailed during this period. Bees have been working on cottonwood and willow. Broodrearing is advancing well, with brood in from three to five frames. Some beekeepers have fed heavily, while others have not found this necessary. There was some winter killing of alfalfa and in some sections sweetclover does not appear to be overly abundant. However, taking the State as a whole plant conditions now appear quite favorable.

Idaho. Present indications point to an earlier than normal spring in southern Idaho. Many bees are now on their summer stands. Most colonies wintered well, with average or lighter than average losses. Bees are building up well and are now self-supporting in most localities. Considerable earlier feeding was done in some yards. In the Boise Valley fruit is in bloom. Dandelions are now blooming in nearly all parts of southern Idaho. Some alfalfa was lost from early spring floods, and some alfalfa is being turned under.

Utah. Conditions were very favorable during this period. Bees are in good condition and storing considerable spring honey. Colonies are building up satisfactorily. Cherries and peaches are in full bloom in northern Utah and weather conditions have been ideal both for pollinization and for bees to get the most benefit from the bloom. In general the fruit bloom is considerably lighter than normal. Plant and moisture conditions are now very favorable. Taken as a whole Utah beekeepers are very optimistic over the present prospects for a crop.

Nevada. Based on State inspections so far completed bees wintered extremely well with losses of only one to two percent. Such losses can be replaced by division as colonies are building up rapidly and many are showing queen cells preparatory to swarming. The spring bloom of wild flowers, dandelion and fruit is good. Weather has been favorable.

ARIZONA: (Period April 8-23)

In the Salt River Valley the orange honey flow is over. While the surplus of orange honey was not large, probably averaging not over 20 pounds per colony - the build up on citrus was better than average. Bees are being moved to the mesquite which is starting to bloom. Some beekeepers expect an average flow from that source, while others feel prospects are none too good due to lack of moisture. In the Yuma section bees have built up well and are now making some surplus from mesquite. Extracting of Citrus will begin around May 1.

SOUTHWESTERN AREAS:- (Period April 9-24)

Northeast Texas. Warm weather prevailed. Bees and brood have expanded rapidly with some hives showing brood in the second story where food supplies have been ample. The clover and horsemint flow in this section is expected to be about 30 days late.

East Texas. Most of this period was dry and rather cool, resulting in the storage of little honey. It now looks like the spring flow will be short. Package colonies have not been as prolific as last year and some orders have been delayed a few days. Many orders continue to come in but has been necessary to return them.

Southeast Texas. In the vicinity of Kingsville the mesquite flow is at its peak. Bees are also obtaining good quantities of honey from rattan, willow and other sources, but the flow from these is expected to be rather short. Package shippers are stripping colonies of surplus bees in an effort to keep orders moving on time. Many orders have had to be returned for lack of sufficient bees and queens. New honey will soon be ripe, but lack of sufficient help will in most cases delay extracting. Few sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted Mixed Flowers in small pails 19¢, in glass jars 24¢.

Lower Rio Grande Valley. The citrus flow is over and mesquite is drawing to a close. The rattan flow is about three-fourths completed. A light flow continues from some native ground flowers. Much of the Lower Valley is still very dry, although some local sections have had nice rains. Package shipments continue heavy and will likely last until the end of April or early May. Migratory beekeepers are beginning to move northward. Several already have moved their first load of bees.

Southwest Texas. Recent rain in this area has slackened the honey flow but a fairly good crop has been obtained from huajillo, catsclaw, soapbush, mesquite, and some other wild flowers. All of these bloomed and yielded profusely, although their season was rather short. Demand for package bees and queens continues heavy. Demand for honey was also heavy, but supplies are very short as little surplus has been obtained so far. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted, Mixed Flowers single 60s 15¢; 1-lb. glass jars 21¢. Beeswax 40¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

May 1, 1943.

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New Mexico. Weather in the Mesilla Valley has been extremely dry. Mesquite is blooming well, but seems to be producing little nectar. Phacelia also is yielding lightly. Apparently the air is too dry to produce a heavy nectar flow. Alfalfa is beginning to bloom. In the vicinity of Albuquerque irrigation water will be short as the winter snowfall has been far below normal and spring run-off will be light. This will seriously affect honey plants unless there is sufficient rainfall to keep them going.

Oklahoma. Bees are expanding broodnests rapidly. Consumption of stores has been heavy. However, a little nectar is now coming in which will relieve this situation somewhat.

Arkansas. Most of April has been cool and windy, preventing bees from obtaining much food. However, broodrearing continued at the usual rate so the consumption of stores has been heavy. Recent heavy rains improved both swamp and upland plants.

PLAINS AREA: (Period April 9-April 24)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. The weather turned quite springlike toward the end of this period with the first rains of the season around the 22nd. Bees have been gathering pollen and a little nectar from elm and maple. Bees are practically all unpacked and estimates place average losses for the winter and spring so far around 20 percent, although reports of loss are extremely variable running from as low as 5 percent to as high as 50 percent. Sweetclover stands look fairly good. Sales f.o.b. per lb., extracted - Sweetclover ton lots 12¢; Sweetclover-Buckwheat in small pails 18¢.

South Dakota. Weather continues cool and backward, with very little rain. However, soil moisture is now ample. Trees are just beginning to bud. Bees have been able to gather small amounts of pollen on those days when they were able to fly. Sweetclover acreage is much lighter as many farmers are turning under sweetclover in favor of other crops. White Dutch clover is coming back in the pastures so that source should provide some relief. Condition of colonies is only fair and heavy feeding is necessary in many yards. Many package bees have been ordered to replace winter losses.

Iowa. The season continues abnormally cool. Considerable early pollen was killed by frost. Fruit bloom and dandelion were just coming on at the end of the period and conditions appeared quite favorable provided weather permits bees to work. Although there was some winter killing of clover and alfalfa, plant conditions as a whole appear satisfactory. In most sections of the State moisture appears ample, but in some parts of western Iowa additional rain is needed. Some clover was damaged by deposits of silt from high water during early April along the Missouri River bottoms. Winter losses have been somewhat heavier than normal. Some beekeepers have been unable to obtain package bees for replacement on scheduled date, so that many colonies may not be sufficiently strong to take full advantage of the early flow. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted - Clover few small lots 12¢.

Kansas. The season is averaging about two weeks later than normal. In some sections rain is needed badly. Dandelion is now providing considerable pasturage and bees are making a good early build-up. In some sections dandelion flow has been short due to a lack of moisture. Although losses averaged heavier than normal colonies are now in generally good condition. There has been some division of strong colonies to increase the number of hives this season.

Nebraska. Temperatures are running considerably below normal. So far bees have obtained little but scant pasturage. Heavy feeding has been required and in most yards it looks like it will have to be continued until the main honey flow starts. There has been considerable dwindling of colonies and losses will be much heavier than earlier anticipated. There has been some combining of colonies and many beekeepers are using package bees to strengthen their colonies. While rains toward the end of the period improved plant conditions there is still moisture deficiency over most of Nebraska. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted - Sweetclover few small lots 12¢. Beeswax, 41¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Missouri. There was considerable good flying weather during this period. Bees are building up fairly well. Sweetclover is coming along nicely but there has been some reduction in acreage. Several days of drizzling rain benefitted honey plants. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted - Mixed Flowers few small sales in 5-lb. pails at 12¢; 1-lb. glass jars 15¢.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period April 10-26)

Michigan. On the Northern Peninsula many bees were removed from the collars during this period. Losses among collar-packed bees were light. Some feeding will be necessary. While most days were warm enough to permit flight after the bees were placed outside nights are still quite cold, retarding plant growth. On the Southern Peninsula nearly all bees have been removed from collars or unpacked. Reports on losses are extremely variable. In some of the better managed yards where bees were well cared for last fall losses will run somewhat less than 10 percent, while in other yards estimates run as high as 50 percent. For the State as a whole it is now estimated losses may average 15-20 percent, possibly close to the upper figure. Most colonies came out of the winter light in stores and heavy sugar feeding is being resorted to in many yards. While the

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season has been backward some of the earlier blooming plants were coming out toward the end of this period. It is expected, however, that little nectar will be available for several weeks. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted - Clover, in small pails 17¢; capping melter honey in case lots 12-13¢. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb. cash and 43½¢ per lb. intrade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Wisconsin. The spring has been quite cool and backward. However, there were a number of good flying days during this period and bees obtained some pollen from maple and pussywillow. In the southern part of the State dandelions are just beginning to bloom. For the State as a whole winter losses have been extremely heavy. Many reports come in of losses of 50 percent with some higher. On the other hand, in a number of large yards which were well packed and cared for losses will not exceed 10 percent. Dysentary and nosema took a heavy toll of bees in some yards. Many of these losses will be replaced with package bees, but some beekeepers were unable to obtain packages to make up their deficiencies.

Minnesota. The weather during most of this period was cold, windy, and dry, although there were a number of days on which bees could fly. A little pollen and very little nectar were obtained from elm, box elder, and maple. Winter losses are extremely variable, but for the State as a whole are considerably heavier than average. Considerable feeding has been necessary. In general colony conditions are not too favorable for the early flow. Many package bees are being bought to build up weak colonies. Plant prospects are now fair to good. In some spots white clover was killed by alternate freezing and thawing and the March ice storm. Alsike apparently came through the winter in better shape. It is still too early to tell much about sweetclover or alfalfa. Planting of alsike and white clover has been fairly heavy this spring. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted - Clover single 60s to ton lots, Light Amber to White 12-12½¢, with cans returned 11½¢; Amber 11½¢, with cans returned 11¢.

Ohio. Most of this period was abnormally cool, with some rather severe weather. Portions of northern Ohio had the heaviest snowfall of the winter. Toward the end of the period temperatures moderated sufficiently for bees to work on several days. They have gathered pollen and a little nectar from maple, elm, willow, and some of the early spring flowers. Normal colonies, which came through the winter in good shape, are building up well, but many weak colonies and those short of stores are making no headway and are in many cases dwindling. Heavy feeding continues in most yards. Winter losses have averaged considerably heavier than normal, and it now appears questionable whether many colonies will build up sufficiently to take advantage of the main clover flow. Winter losses among packed bees now look like they will run 10 to 15 percent. Among unpacked bees they will run much heavier, in many cases as high as 50 percent. Many packages and queens are being brought in from the South to replace weak colonies. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted - Amber Clover case lots 12¢ per lb., in small pails 20¢ per lb.

Indiana. Weather during this period was extremely variable. The season appears to be about two weeks late. In northern Indiana fruit bloom is expected during the first part of May. So far bees have been able to work only the early blooming shade trees and dandelion which is just beginning to bloom. Winter losses are a little heavier than normal, due largely to starvation and poor quality of winter stores. Hives with adequate ventilation appear to have fared better than those with sealed covers. Broodrearing is not as far advanced as normal. Clover wintered poorly, with some white Dutch clover killed. Alsike fared somewhat better. Due to the wet season last year much volunteer alsike has appeared in the hay fields. Sales f.o.b., extracted - few small lots Amber Clover in small pails 16¢ per lb., 1-lb. glass jars 22¢.

Illinois. Weather conditions continue unfavorable for bee activity, with the season running about two weeks late. In the southern and central portions of the State apples have been blooming but weather has prevented bees from gathering much pollen or nectar. Winter losses have been heavier than normal, running 50 percent and even higher in a few yards although the average for the State will likely run between 10 and 20 percent. Many beekeepers are still feeding. Honey plants, especially clovers, appear to be in fairly good condition. Moisture and added warmth, however, are needed to put plants in prime condition. A very few sales of Amber Clover in single 60s were reported at 10¢ per lb., and yellow beeswax at 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Kentucky. The first part of this period was cool and bees were confined to their hives until about the 20th of the month. Toward the end of the period temperatures moderated and bees worked dandelion and fruit bloom. Colony populations are in many cases rather low, and food supplies light. Losses to date are figured at around 10 percent. Condition of honey plants is good.

NORTHEASTERN STATES:- (Period April 12-26)

New York. Spring has been greatly delayed over all of New York. The 23rd and 24th were the first days on which bees could work actively. Some pollen and a little nectar were available from willow, maple, and elm. Broodrearing has increased some, but is running late. Many beekeepers report the heaviest losses in years, running in some cases to as high as 50-65 percent. On the other hand,

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some beekeepers who left sufficient stores last fall and packed their bees well had losses not in excess of 10 percent. Considerable feeding has been necessary and in many yards must be continued for some time. It now seems doubtful whether many colonies will be sufficiently strong to carry on pollination work most effectively in the earlier blooming orchards.

Vermont. The weather has warmed up. Elms are beginning to bloom and are furnishing bees with some pollen. Showers have helped early spring plants.

Connecticut. Because of cold winds bees were slow to build up broodnests. On April 23 the weather improved and considerable pollen has been gathered since that time. Queens are laying heavily but colonies will be weak for the next three weeks. A shortage of field bees for the fruit bloom will make feeding of many colonies necessary.

New Jersey. This period was cold, cloudy, and windy until about the 23rd when it became warm and springlike. The season is at least two weeks late. Broodrearing has been retarded and the condition of many colonies declined during this period. In south Jersey peaches are in bloom. In north Jersey there has been little development of fruit or forest trees. Considerable feeding has been necessary and will be continued for some time unless the weather moderates very rapidly.

Pennsylvania. Around the middle of the month a cold spell was accompanied by a snowfall of from four to six inches in some sections. At the close of the period the weather was springlike and early fruit was blooming in southern Pennsylvania. Considerable quantities of brood were chilled during the cold weather. As a result colony condition is now lower than a month ago. Most colonies are recuperating rapidly and should regain normal strength in time for the main clover flow. Moisture conditions are good and most nectar bearing plants appear to be in good condition. Colonies are showing about a 10 percent loss for the State as a whole.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES:-- (Period April 10-26).

Maryland. The early part of this period was cool with considerable rainfall and temperatures below freezing on several nights. Warmer weather after the 24th made it possible for bees to work on deciduous fruit, mustard, and some wild flowers. The lack of opportunity for bees to gather much pollen during early April has slowed down broodrearing. Considerable feeding has been necessary in some yards.

West Virginia. Continued unseasonably cool weather has retarded broodrearing and seriously limited activity on the part of bees as well as development of nectar producing plants.

Virginia. Spring dwindling of colonies has been more severe in Virginia than at any time during the last ten years. Some colonies died of starvation due to cold weather which prevented the building up of honey stores. Many other colonies were retarded. No sales of honey were reported but beeswax sold at the ceiling of 41¢ cash and 43¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

North Carolina. Spring to date has been the most unfavorable for bees in several years. Many colonies went into the winter lighter than normal in stores and this combined with an unusually cold and backward spring has necessitated much feeding and resulted in higher than normal losses. A heavy frost around the middle of the month damaged many honey plants in the Coastal Plain area. In the Piedmont Area bees are building up satisfactorily where sufficient stores were available, but some reports indicate losses will be fairly heavy, in some cases running as high as 30-35 percent. Little nectar will be available in the Piedmont area for at least a couple of weeks. In the mountains losses from starvation are reported as rather high but insufficient information is available to make any accurate estimate as to the extent of these losses.

South Carolina. Weather during practically this entire period was very unfavorable for bees and honey plants. Holly and tulip poplar are about ready to bloom - about six days late. Bees derived little honey from the apple bloom, which is about over. In the vicinity of Clemson bees are just making a living from crimson clover and early vetch. Hairy vetch will bloom much later.

SOUTHEASTERN STATES:-- (Period April 10-26)

Georgia. Unseasonably cool weather still prevails over much of Georgia. Bee activity in general has slowed up. Colonies as a whole are still rather weak. Some strong colonies in south Georgia have made a little surplus from tulip poplar and blackberry. However, most beekeepers report that no surplus has been stored and many colonies will have to build up on the main honey flow which is expected to begin in about 10 days. This will tend to cut the surplus from the main flow unless unusually favorable conditions prevail.

Florida. Some Orange honey is being extracted. Yields of from 30 to 40 pounds per colony have been reported. The orange bloom is about 75 to 85 percent finished. Ti-ti is over and produced only about 40 percent of a crop. Saw palmetto has started and prospects look quite favorable at this time. In general bees are in fairly good condition. Swarming so far has been light. Moisture conditions over the State are extremely variable. In some sections it is unusually dry, while in others there have been heavy rains. Sales f.o.b., extracted, Mixed Flowers, in barrels 12¢ per lb.

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Alabama. Cold and rainy weather hampered activities during most of this period. The ti-ti flow was cut to about one-third of a crop. Prospects for tupelo are good, but many colonies are too weak to gather heavily. Few colonies have any reserve stores. Movement of package bees is active. Most shipments are moving on schedule although some are running behind because of the adverse conditions which have prevailed. Sales Amber Purslane in single 60s 12¢ per lb.

Louisiana. In southern Louisiana weather was favorable and bees were quite active during this period. Many colonies are still below normal but brood is increasing and they are gradually building up to a point that will permit normal production. The white Dutch clover flow has been quite heavy and surpluses are being registered. A little extracting is being done to meet local demand. Most sales have been at ceiling levels. Many small producers are supplying their trade at the old ceiling price as of March, 1942. There has been a heavy movement of package bees and queens. Many orders continue to come in although practically all are being returned. In northern Louisiana cool, cloudy weather curtailed bee activity and necessitated additional feeding. Broodrearing also suffered a setback so that most colonies are not up to normal for this season. Queen losses have been unusually heavy. Due to scarcity of queens little requeening was done in northern Louisiana. The spring flow from white Dutch clover is fair and a good production should be obtained if the weather is favorable.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the last of April. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: Arrivals extracted l.c.l. receipts equivalent 1 car Ohio.

COMB: No supplies on market.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand good, market strong. All sales on f.o.b. basis.

CHICAGO: No supplies on market. No sales reported. Beeswax- practically no supplies available. No honey receipts.

CLEVELAND: No supplies on market. No sales reported. Nothing offered by brokers.

DENVER: Receipts extracted approximately 3000 lbs. Colo.; beeswax, 3500 lbs. Colo. Demand good, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers and direct to large retailers- INTERMOUNTAIN, White to Water White Sweetclover-Alfalfa cases, 12, 2-lb. glass jars \$4.50-4.70; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$6.30-6.90; 12, 24-oz. glass \$3.35-3.65; 24, 1-lb. glass \$4.70-5.00.

BEESWAX: Demand moderate, market steady. Dealers offering domestic crude 41-41½¢ per lb.

DETROIT: Arrivals- extracted 4200 lbs. Mich., 1200 lbs. Wis. Supplies light. Demand good, market firm at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: Sales by bottlers to chain stores - MICHIGAN, jars per two dozen, 1-lb. \$5.75, 5-oz. \$2.30.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals by truck extracted 160, 60-lb. cans Minn. White Sweetclover.

EXTRACTED: Demand very good, market firm at ceiling prices. Sales to bakers, baker supply houses and confectioners - MINNESOTA, Light Amber to White \$8.70-8.90 per 60-lb. cans. Sales to wholesale grocers - MINNESOTA, Sweetclover, U. S. No. 1 blended honey 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.27; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.57. Sales to retail grocers - 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.59; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.93.

BEESWAX: Supplies cleaned up.

NEWYORK: Arrivals 543,306 lbs. origin not specified, 120 lbs. Fla., 4000 lbs. Ohio. Demand good, market unsettled, very few sales.

EXTRACTED: Manufacturers price to chain stores - OHIO, White Clover 1-lb. jars \$2.70 per dozen. Trading on imported honey being held up awaiting new price amendment.

BEESWAX: 7011 lbs. origin not specified arrived. Supplies very light. Sales by receivers basis port of entry - South America, West Indies and Cuba, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢, non-sun-bleachable 41½¢. Africa, 37½¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Arrivals by truck 3000 lbs. origin not known. No offerings. No prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals by rail and truck 4932 lbs. bottled Midwestern. Nothing offered. No sales.

PORTLAND: Receipts via motor truck from Idaho Sweetclover-Alfalfa 100 cases 5-lb. tins, 320 cases 2½-lb. tins, 470 cases 2½-lb. jars, 237 cases 16-oz. jars. Supplies light. Demand active, market firm. Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots -

EXTRACTED: IDAHO, Sweetclover-Alfalfa 12, 5-lb. tins \$12.48, 24, 2½-lb. tins \$6.60; 12, 5-lb. jars \$11.96-12.52; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$6.33-6.60; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.89-6.13.

COMB: No supplies.

BEESWAX: No purchases, market nominally unchanged at 41½¢ per lb.

ST LOUIS: Nothing being offered. No trading reported.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND, AND ALAMEDA: Receipts via truck- Central California 94½ cases Light Amber Fruit Blossoms.

EXTRACTED: Bottlers generally are using the small containers and are using the new ceiling prices.

BEE SWAX: Demand good, but practically no offerings.

SEATTLE: Receipts from Idaho, 3050 cases of mixed 12, 5-lb. , 24, 2½-lb., and 24, 1-lb. cans. Demand active. Supplies not sufficient to meet the demand, market firm to stronger.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots - WASHINGTON and IDAHO Alfalfa-Sweetclover, Light Amber 12, 5-lb. pails \$10.60-12.63; 24, 2½-lb. cans \$11.04-13.40; 24, 1-lb. cans \$6.52; 12, 42-oz. jars \$5.91; 12, 20-oz. jars \$3.12; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.56-2.85; 12, 11-oz. jars \$1.84-2.15. No quotations on 60-lb. cans. WASHINGTON, creamed honey 24, 14-oz. cups \$5.25-5.75; 24, 40-oz. cups \$13.86.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - NO. 600

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

SUMMARY

The temperatures during recent weeks have been tending to decidedly below normal in eastern areas, especially in the northeast and above normal in the west and northwest, but during the past week the Central and Northern States west of the Mississippi River had abnormally cold weather with record breaking minimum temperatures for so late in the season in some Northcentral States. Rains have been general over most of the United States. More rain is needed in most of New Mexico and Arizona, parts of Iowa and Minnesota, and much of Nebraska and South Dakota. Precipitation was light in the north plains areas but additional moisture was not especially needed there. Weather conditions as a whole, as regards agriculture, show a decided improvement, but have retarded activity among the bees and interfered with much of the necessary work planned by the beekeepers. Package bees are gradually being distributed and their introduction is stimulating hive activity satisfactorily. Many beekeepers report delay in delivery which in most cases is due to labor problems and weather limitations. Winter losses are reported in practically all districts and the estimated losses run from less than 5 percent to 75 percent, but the general average may be 15-25 percent. Feeding is quite general especially in the eastern part of the country where the spring is backward. Beekeepers are experiencing difficulty in getting help, either experienced or inexperienced, and many are obliged to reduce their number of colonies for this reason. Apprehension is felt in the clover areas because much clover acreage is being plowed up for planting to soybeans, flax or grain crops. Very little honey is available. The new crop is being sold as soon as it is extracted. Buyers are anxious to contract for season's output, but apparently the producers are not signing up. Some Mesquite, Manzanita, Orange, Ti-ti, and Mixed Flowers new honey is being sold, but the demand exceeds the available supply.

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period April 23-May 6)

Southern California. This section was favored with clear warm weather during the first half of May, which has benefited beekeepers materially. Late reports indicate that the orange honey production in this area is much better than anticipated a few weeks ago, when undesirable weather prevailed, as many beekeepers have been extracting 40 to 50 pounds per colony, while some have been getting even heavier yields. First deliveries of Orange honey were made around May 5. The quality of this honey was very good with the color ranging from fair to good. Present conditions are ideal for white sage in the majority of the producing areas. Wild buckwheat and black sage are just starting to provide nectar. Many colonies are being moved since the orange flow to take advantage of blossoms in other locations. First crop alfalfa is being cut. Beekeepers are having much difficulty with labor as it is practically impossible to obtain experienced help and almost as hard to find any kind of labor. New crop Orange honey was active in demand during the period in review, with all beekeepers finding an abundance of buyers for their limited offerings at \$14.40 per case f.o.b. country points for all grades ranging from Extra Light Amber to Water White. Beeswax continued in light supply, with some sales reported at 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash and 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. country points.

Central California. Mean temperatures were well above normal, only negligible amounts of precipitation were reported. The weather was quite favorable for the development of nectar-producing plants of all kinds during this period. The orange flow is completed and extracting is progressing. Late reports received from the San Joaquin Valley state that the Orange honey flow seems to be quite spotted, some beekeepers reporting around 50-60 pounds per colony and others as low as 10-20 pounds. Bees are generally reported in good condition and many colonies are being moved out of the orange sections to sage areas and summer locations. Demand for honey is strong especially for Orange. Buyers are snapping up the limited offerings at near ceiling prices. Retailers whose supplies are exhausted are begging bottlers and case lot dealers for honey regardless of flavor, quality, or size of containers. Sales by producers in ton lots or more delivered Bay Cities by truck: White to Extra White Orange 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ -12 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢, Light Amber Mixed Flowers 12-12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; delivered interior valley points - Extra White Orange 12¢, Light Amber Mixed Flowers 10-11¢.

Northern California. Weather has been about normal for the time of year. Star thistle is in fine condition and given good weather the prospects are excellent. Where bees have not been disturbed they are swarming or are about ready to swarm. Colonies are well supplied with pollen and mostly heavy with brood nests, but are light in honey. Numerous colonies have been placed in the Sierras for manzanita, chamaebatia, and wild lilacs, some of which will remain for the cedar honeydew. Those which have not been moved are working

black locust, eucalyptus, filaree, poppy, wild radish, mustard, vetch, and Ladino clover from which they are getting an abundance of pollen, but the nectar flow is rather light. Sales by producers ton lots or more delivered interior valley points per lb. Manzanita Light Amber 10-11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, few with cans and cases returned, Extra Light Amber 12¢.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period April 23-May 6)

West of Cascades. Temperatures along the coast have been below normal with a delayed season still in evidence. There have been some heavy frosts in both southern Oregon and the Willamette Valley. Moisture content of soil and present condition of honey plants should provide a satisfactory flow, although it will be unusually late. Winter losses in small apiaries and farm yards are running high. Some replacement of package bees is reported. Most colonies are said to be strong and working in the supers, a little swarming is reported, and a few colonies show dwindling. In certain localities all colonies are short of stores and will require feeding. Bees are working on vine maple, Scotch bloom is in full bloom, and together with Lupin, dandelion, vine maple, and other wild flowers, should supply a good honey flow but the weather has not been conducive to bee activity. Stocks of old honey are negligible, with no sales reported.

East of Cascades. Unusually cool weather with considerable rain has prevailed during the period just closed. The colonies which were placed in orchards during the fruit blossom season gathered an abundance of nectar and pollen on the suitable days. They are all stocked with stores and there should be little feeding required unless conditions change. Many colonies not in orchards gained 10-20 pounds from dandelion. Some of the strong colonies are reported to have as high as 14 frames of brood. Records on a scale hive show a loss of only 5 pounds during April 1943, as compared with a loss of 13 pounds during the same month in 1942.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period April 23-May 7)

Following a period of favorable weather, conditions vary considerably over the area. Colorado had lots of rain, followed by low temperatures; Montana had some rain with cool overcast weather; Utah had frost with rain and snow in higher elevations; and Nevada also had frost with windy weather. Moisture conditions are good. Alfalfa is said to be approximately two weeks ahead of usual time in Colorado. Bees are building up very well and broodrearing is progressing; some swarming is reported. Feeding may be necessary to carry the bees through to the main flow, especially if the weather does not warm up. Sales f.o.b. extracted Alfalfa-Clover in case to ton lots 12-13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, some single 60s 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, in 5-lb. pails 17-19¢ per lb.; 12, 17-oz. jars \$2.77-2.93. No sales of beeswax were reported for this period. Details by States follow:

Colorado. Precipitation ranging from one-half to two inches is reported over most of this State during the latter part of the period. In some sections cold to freezing temperatures threatened the fruit blossoms and other honey producing sources. Due to a very warm April the foliage is out and apple and cherry trees are in full bloom. While dandelion is furnishing nectar in some sections, it is reported a failure in others. Winter losses have been about normal, although the unusually open winter was not good for the bees. Some feeding is necessary now but colony condition is a week to ten days ahead of schedule and bees should be ready for the first alfalfa crop which will be early. Package bees are late in delivery, and due to transportation difficulties in many cases arrived in poor condition. Some buyers are offering advance contracts at ceiling prices.

Wyoming. Temperatures mostly have been subnormal, with frost or freezing temperatures general, but no material damage resulted. Beneficial precipitation was general also. Bees are about all out of winter quarters and light losses are reported. Feeding was necessary to carry them through, but now they are making a living and are in good condition. Many package bees were ordered and they have been coming in slowly.

Montana. Ample rains with cool and cloudy weather have prevailed in this State. Clovers and alfalfa look fine. Dandelions are beginning to bloom, but warmth and sunshine are badly needed so that the bees can get the nectar and pollen. Stores have been used up closely and some heavy feeding may be required before the main flow comes on. Colonies are brooding well and average three to four frames of brood per colony. Many inquiries are being received in regard to the coming crop, but no contracts are reported at this time.

Idaho. Weather in Southern Idaho has been cool and windy. Bees are in good condition, but with the dandelions over there is very little for them to work on at this time.

Utah. After a period of good weather frosts have occurred in much of the northern and western parts of the State. There have been some rain and snow on the higher summits. Fruit blossoms and dandelions furnished a heavy flow, the bees gathering more honey for food from these sources than they have gathered in a number of seasons. The locusts are coming into bloom now. Winter losses were light and bees have built up well. The brood nests are heavy and strong hives are starting queen cells. Some swarming is reported which is earlier than usual.

Nevada. Cool windy weather has prevailed over the last several days, with frost in some districts. Heavy loss of fruit is reported in some sections due to late frosts. Bees are in good condition but are consuming stores rapidly. Feeding will be necessary if weather does not become milder.

ARIZONA: (Period April 23-May 7)

Temperatures have been about average for this season. Light scattered showers are reported in higher elevations in the north but elsewhere rather too dry conditions prevail. Mesquite is in bloom and catsclaw is budding. Prospects are for a longer honey flow than usual from mesquite and catsclaw should produce well. Difficulty was experienced in obtaining package bees and where orders have been filled they are from two to four weeks late. Some extracting of Mesquite honey is reported, and it is of good color and flavor. Mesquite is priced at 13¢ per lb. in 60s and 17¢ for 1-lb. glass jars, but few sales are reported.

SOUTHWESTERN AREAS:- (Period April 24-May 10)

Northeast Texas. Refreshing rains have fallen in this part of the State. Bees are expanding rapidly and are in good condition. They are working on willow, black locust, mesquite, and other wild flowers with satisfactory results. Horsesmint and clover will be four to six weeks late.

East Texas. Most of this period was very dry, but a serious drought was broken by good rains May 7. Colonies are in only fair condition and prospects for the honey crop are not too good at this time. Package shipments are going out late and it is necessary to refuse many orders.

Southeast Texas. Rain is badly needed in this part of the State. Bees are rather inactive now except where they are working in Huban clover. Extracting of Mesquite honey is progressing and sales are being made as soon as honey is ready at ceiling prices.

Southwest Texas. Dry weather has prevailed in this area during most of the period. Crops and plants are showing the results of lack of rain. Mesquite is blooming and bees are working on it but honey flow is not abundant. Winter losses have not been heavy and the bees are building up well and should be in good condition for the cotton flow.

New Mexico. Severe drouth continues in the southwestern part of this State but somewhat alleviated in southeast and definitely broken in the north by gentle rains. Precipitation has been very beneficial to winter wheat and early planted crops. First cutting of alfalfa is under way in southern part of State. Prospects for fruit crop are favorable. Bees have wintered well throughout this State. One beekeeper with 300 colonies reports a loss of less than 5 percent.

Arkansas. After a season of very dry weather heavy to excessive rainfall is reported in the northern and central parts of this State. Bees are now in good condition although as a result of late cool weather they did not reach maximum strength or develop swarming before the flow started. A little swarming is reported but it is not general. Honey flow from willow and holly will be followed by the vetch flow. A scale colony is reported to have gained 28 pounds in a nine-day period.

FLAINS AREA: (Period April 24-May 10)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. There were not April rains in this section, and although there was more than the usual amount of snow to melt much of that water has drained off. Ponds are drying up and the fields are so dry that grain is not coming up. Heavy frosts or freezing weather with snow still prevails in some areas. Pussywillow which was beginning to bloom has been set back by the unusual temperatures. Wild plums, dandelions and some apple blossoms are yielding nectar, but these are scattered. Sweetclover looks very good. Bees which are being unpacked show serious winter losses and are very short of food. The percentage of loss reported varies from 9 to 75 percent, but the average probably will be 25-30 percent. Bees require some feeding, but good weather is needed badly during the next 30 days for those colonies which are short in stores. Some beekeepers are reporting difficulty in securing the package bees they need. Large honey buyers are already trying to tie up producers to sell their honey.

South Dakota. Cold, dry, windy weather has prevailed. Rain has fallen only in the extreme western part of the State, and although there is plenty of sub-soil moisture, rains in the eastern part of the State would be very beneficial. Package bees are being installed with feed and in some cases soybean flour is being substituted for pollen. Sweetclover plants are numerous along roadsides, but many fields are being ploughed under.

Iowa. Cold weather with no rain in the northwestern part of the State, while too much rain in the southern and eastern sections is reported. Most of the fruit trees bloomed during this period, but concern is felt because the weather and lack of bees were unfavorable for pollination. Dandelions have started to bloom. Many clover fields will be ploughed up and planted to soybeans. Heavy winter losses are reported; feeding is necessary for most remaining colonies. However, feeding and the introduction of packaged bees are building up the colonies rather satisfactorily. Some beekeepers are finding it necessary to reduce their number of colonies, due to winter losses and inability to get packaged bees. No sales were reported, but buyers are active among producers arranging for the 1943 crop.

Kansas. Heavy rain has fallen in the eastern and northwestern counties. Soil moisture is ample except in the southwestern section where there has been no rain. The white and yellow sweetclovers are starting to bloom. Bees have been working on dandelions and black locust when the weather permitted. Colonies are short on stores, and the small supply of pollen which was obtained was mostly used up during the bad weather.

Nebraska. Scattered showers mostly light, but rather heavy in the southeastern part of the State, severe hail and wind storms with considerable damage in some sections are reported. Bad weather caused heavy consumption of stores, necessitating much feeding of bees. Bees have worked on a limited amount of dandelions, fruit blossoms, and oriental shrubs when weather permitted. Bee pastures are being ploughed under at an alarming rate, considering the number of colonies in the State. Packaged bees are slow in arriving and hard to get.

Missouri. Precipitation has been heavy, and a deficiency of sunshine is reported. The rain has put the clover plantings in excellent condition and they are now beginning to bloom. Bees appear to have ample stores to carry them through until the main flow, although some feeding has been necessary. Some beekeepers are moving their hives to other locations to take advantage of white Dutch and sweetclover. It is estimated that about 25% of the sweetclover acreage has been ploughed up for the planting of soybeans and other crops. The following sales of extracted honey were reported - 60s at 11¢ per lb., and 5-lb. pails 12½¢ per lb. Beeswax light and mixed sold at 41½¢ per lb.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period April 26-May 11)

Michigan. Southern Peninsula. The spring has been backward, most reports indicate that season is two weeks to a month late. Cold weather with rain and snow still on the ground in the northern part of this section are reported. As a result of the severity of the winter bees did not come into spring in a strong condition, being short of stores, brood and bees. Reports of winter losses continue to vary, most beekeepers are now reporting 15-25 percent. In many instances lost colonies will not be replaced, and where replacements are made, they will be late. Many colonies have already used up their share of sugar and still need feeding. Dandelions and fruit blooms are ready or nearly so far the bees, but recent rains have prevented full utilization of them so far. Winter grains and old meadows are making slow growth, but new seedings and white clover are looking better. Large buyers of honey are active, trying to contract the coming crop but beekeepers are reported as not signing up. Sales f.o.b. extracted clover in 60s, 14½¢ per lb., 5-lb. pails \$5.80 per case, 1-lb. jars \$5.04 per case; capping melter honey in 60s at 11¢ per lb., Beeswax reported sold at 42-43½¢ per lb., and 1-lb. bricks yellow refined individually wrapped sold at 57¢ each f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Wisconsin. Strong winds and considerable sunshine have prevailed in this section but most of the bee men are hoping for more moisture before long. Clover plants look well and dandelions are coming along, but due to unfavorable weather conditions bees have worked very little on the dandelions. The season is reported about two to four weeks late. Condition of bees is fairly good, and some package bees are beginning to arrive for necessary replacement. A few small lots of white clover extracted are reported sold at 15-17¢ per lb., Dark Buckwheat at 17¢ per lb.

Minnesota. Cool overcast weather has continued with high winds practically throughout this period. Fruit blooms and dandelions are coming on, but appear to be at least one to two weeks late. About May 5 temperatures of 80 degrees in some sections resulted in a heavy flow from the willow trees, but this mild season was followed by thunder storms and weather near freezing point. Farmers are reported cutting acreage of sweetclover in order to plant small grains and flax. Package bees are coming in on a small scale, but many beekeepers have not had their orders filled as yet, due to conditions in the South. Winter losses in all parts of the State are heavy and most colonies were barely able to make a living during this period, due to the cold weather. The condition of bees at present is estimated at about 80-85 percent of normal and about two weeks behind usual schedule for this time of year. Orders from consumers are stacking up, but no sales were reported during this period.

Ohio. Cool, rainy weather over most of the period has prevailed. This condition has been beneficial for the clovers which are looking much better, but has not been suitable for the pollination of fruit trees which are blooming, nor has it been very good for the partly starved colonies which especially need sunshine and an opportunity to gather pollen and nectar. During the warm days on which they have been able to fly they have gathered both pollen and nectar in satisfying quantities from dandelion, fruit bloom, hawthorn and an abundance of wild flowers. Many beekeepers fear that due to present weakened condition of their colonies will not be time for them to build up sufficiently for the clover flow. No sales of honey are reported but some beeswax of average grade sold at 41½-43½¢ per lb.

Indiana. During the first part of this period the weather was quite cool and fairly dry, but recently warmer weather with plenty of rain has brought vegetation along briskly. Alsike clover is plentiful, and white Dutch clover is appearing in vast quantities. Field sweetclover is not as plentiful as usual and

condition is not too good as the winter weather was rather severe for it; roadside clover looks very well. Trees are leafing rapidly, dandelions and fruit blooms are coming on especially well but weather has kept the bees in the hives most of the time. Bees are slow in their spring buildup due to the backward season, but many colonies are showing up reasonably strong for this period of the year. Reported losses vary greatly, some range as high as 50 percent while other beekeepers report losses as negligible. Many colonies are running low in stores now and need continued good weather to prepare them for the spring flow. There is a good demand for honey but very few sales were reported. A small lot of extracted honey in 5-lb. pails sold at 19¢ per lb.

Illinois. Heavy to excessive rainfall during the past week followed a period of cold, dry weather in this State. Clovers are looking well, but considerable ploughing up of clover to plant soybeans or grain crops is reported. On a few scattered days bees have been able to work on willow, box elder, maple, fruit and dandelion blooms. Winter and spring losses are running rather high, an average of 20-25 percent is estimated by some. Most colonies are light in bees and short of stores so that replenishing and feeding is necessary. What few sales were reported were made at 12¢ per lb. with a few in bulk direct to consumers at 15¢ per lb. Some beeswax was sold at 41½¢ per lb. for cash f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Kentucky. Some fine weather has allowed good flights and other activities. A living is now being made from dandelion and other pollen and nectar-bearing plants. Prospects are said to be better than average for the flow from white and alsike clovers.

NORTHEASTERN STATES: (Period April 27-May 12)

New York. Temperatures have averaged below normal to near normal, with moderately heavy rain except in the extreme southeastern section. Early fruit bloom is starting, but unless the weather improves shortly the bees will have no opportunity to obtain early nectar from this source. Winter losses were heavy, some report losses will amount to 65% of yards, but some beekeepers have not yet unpacked their bees. The cold wet weather has retarded colony development, many colonies are low in bees and some report no opportunity to put in the queens which they have received. Feeding is necessary now and unless some nectar is gathered from hard maple and apple blossoms, feeding may be necessary until the clover plants bloom. Abundance of moisture is producing a good growth of clover plants. Some extracted Buckwheat in ton lots sold at 13¢ per lb., a large lot of Dyce-processed honey was sold at 25¢ per lb.

Vermont. The weather is warmer. Considerable rain has fallen during this period. Bees are building up very well and are getting nectar and pollen from alns and soft maples.

Connecticut. After a very backward spring the weather changed for the better. Dandelion and fruit blossoms are furnishing some nectar which the bees have been able to use during the past few days. Many colonies which were not fed sufficiently were lost during this period. Some are not out of danger at this time but those which had plenty of stores are now in good condition and rapidly approaching swarming strength.

New Jersey. Only light showers with some warm days are reported for this State. Apple and other fruit blossoms in some sections have furnished plenty of pollen and nectar for stimulating brood rearing. Colonies are recovering their strength and considerable swarming is reported in the southern part of the State. In other parts colonies are not up to par and must build up rapidly to be ready for the clover flow. The clovers look promising but good rains are needed.

Pennsylvania. After considerable cool, wet weather during the latter part of April the temperatures have risen somewhat. Because the bees were confined until recently they have not had as much nectar or pollen as usual at this time of year, but on the several days in which they could work they got a good supply from dandelion, juniper, fruit and other spring blossoms. Swarming is beginning and in a few cases premature swarming is reported. Soil moisture is high, and honey plants are in good condition.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period April 27-May 12)

Maryland. The first part of this period was dry with much high wind, but recently moderately warm, wet weather has prevailed. Except in the western part of the State apple, pear, and peach blooms are about finished. Winter losses have been heavy, but the better colonies are building up satisfactorily and should be ready for the main flow which will be somewhat later than usual. Some beekeepers report they have used up their sugar supply for now and are using some of next year's allotment to tide the bees over. Many package bees are being received.

West Virginia. Clovers and other honey plants look well for this season. In some sections the fruit trees failed to bloom due to late freezing weather. Winter and spring losses are running rather heavy. Lack of early blooms contributed to spring dwindling which has been excessive.

Virginia. The past two weeks were warm, dry and windy, but the badly needed rains came in many sections toward the end of this period. The backward spring has retarded the seasonal buildup. In spite of considerable feeding

during April many colonies perished. Many are still in a very weak condition, and winter losses from starvation have been heavier than normal, running as high as 25 percent in some cases. Clovers are in good condition and a good honey flow from that source is expected. Some sales of medium beeswax are reported at 41½¢ per lb. cash, 43½¢ per lb. in trade.

South Carolina. Cool nights with warm days prevailed until about May 9 when a rainy period started. The main honey flow from tulip poplar started about April 26, which was about one week later than normal, holly came along about May 5. In addition, some nectar and pollen are available in red clover, vetch, and white Dutch clover. Considerable swarming has been reported, but in hives with plenty of room it appeared no worse than normal. Demand for honey is brisk, but very little is available.

SOUTHEASTERN STATES: (Period April 26-May 11)

Georgia. Adequate rains fell in northern part of State, but more is needed in the eastern and southern parts, according to weather reports. Although honey plants such as the tulip poplar, blackberry, etc., have bloomed about on schedule they were ready at a time when weather conditions did not permit the bees to gather the nectar. On account of continued cold weather, bees in some sections have removed large quantities of their brood from cells three different times. So far no surplus is reported, but gallberry and mixed flowers are expected to produce some surplus in season, although the total crop may be short of the 1942 year. Indications are that the spring crop will be contracted for or sold by June 10. The demand for honey is heavy and there was no carryover. Beekeepers have been feeding large quantities of sugar. Shippers due to the shortage of material, labor, and other factors could not supply the demand for packaged bees. In some sections all were booked to capacity by May 1, and many orders were refused.

Florida. Warm, dry weather has prevailed in this State during the entire period. Bees are doing well now on palmetto and gallberry, but several beekeepers report their mixed flowers and orange crops were practical failures, due mostly to chilly nights and cold winds, the crop from ti-ti is said to be about 30-40% of normal in some sections. The entire crop of Ti-ti honey in Wakulla county has been sold at 12¢ per lb., and some Mixed Flowers, in barrels sold in other sections at the same price.

Alabama. After a period of dry weather rains have come which insure ample moisture. There has been a good yield from early plants. A few sales of Ti-ti in bulk are reported at 11¢ per lb. f.o.b. The demand for package bees remains good, some shippers having all the orders they can fill through the first week in June.

Mississippi. Dry weather has prevailed, although occasional showers are reported. Vetch and white clover are furnishing the bees with nectar and pollen at present, although the prolonged dry spell did curtail the honey crop.

Louisiana. Beneficial rains have come in most localities after a rather dry period. Some areas are still suffering from lack of moisture, and it is feared that the dry condition and high temperatures may be injurious to the white clover. Bees are in good condition. Scale colonies are making net gains of from three to ten pounds per day. The new honey is light in color and has a fairly heavy body. Some extracting is being done and producers are selling as fast as they get their honey out of the hives, mostly at \$1.50 per gallon.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the middle of May. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: Arrivals: extracted 50 bbls. origin not specified.

COMB: No supplies on market.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand good, market strong. Few sales to wholesalers and confectioners - PUERTO RICO, Amber barrels 12½-12 3/4¢ per lb.

CHICAGO: No honey receipts. No supplies on the market, no sales reported.

BEESWAX: Dealers paying for occasional available lot 41½-43½¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

CLEVELAND: Arrivals: bottled 350 cases Ohio. Supplies very light. Demand good, market firm at ceiling prices.

EXTRACTED: Sales by wholesalers to retailers - OHIO, 2 dozen, 1-lb. jars \$6.24.

DENVER: Honey receipts extracted approximately 20,000 lbs. Colo.; beeswax 5,000 lbs. Demand good, market steady at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers and direct to large retailers-INTERMOUNTAIN, White to Water White Sweetclover-Alfalfa cases, 12, 2-lb. glass jars \$4.50-4.70; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$6.30-6.90; 12, 24-oz. glass \$3.35-3.65; 24, 1-lb. glass \$4.70-5.00.

BEESWAX: Demand good, market steady. Dealers paying 14-41½¢ per lb. for domestic crude.

May 15, 1943.

DETROIT: No receipts reported. Too few sales to quote.

MINNEAPOLIS: No arrivals by truck reported.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand very good, market firm at ceiling prices. No sales to bakers, bakers' supply houses and confectioners.

MINNESOTA, Sweetclover, U, S. No. 1, blended honey: Sales to wholesale grocers- 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.27; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.57; Sales to retail grocers - 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.59; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.93.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: by rail origin not specified 571,143 lbs., 7 cars; by truck 28 bbls. Fla. Demand good, market unsettled. Very few sales.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers, bakers and manufacturers- FLORIDA, Ti-ti 16-17¢ per lb. Trading on imported honey being held up awaiting price amendment.

BEESWAX: 8,100 lbs. arrived. Supplies very light. Sales by receivers, basis port of entry- SOUTH AMERICA, WEST INDIES and Cuba, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢. non-sun-bleachable 41 1/2¢.

PHILADELPHIA: No arrivals. Dealers unable to get supplies. No offerings. No prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck 3,186 lbs. bottled Midwestern. Nothing offered. No sales.

PORTLAND:

EXTRACTED: Receipts via motor truck - from Idaho Sweetclover-Alfalfa 60, 5-lb. cans, 380, 2 1/2-lb. jars; from Utah 27, 60-lb. cans Amber, flavor unknown. Supplies light. Demand exceeds supply, market firm. Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots - IDAHO, Sweetclover-Alfalfa 12, 5-lb. cans \$12.48; 24, 2 1/2-lb. tins \$6.60; 12, 5-lb. jars \$11.96-12.52; 12, 2-lb. jars \$6.33-6.60; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.89-6.13. UTAH, bulk Amber 19¢ per lb.

COMB: No supplies.

BEESWAX: Market steady, few purchases at 41 1/2¢ per lb.

ST. LOUIS: No offerings. No trading reported.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND and ALAMEDA: Receipts via truck - CENTRAL CALIFORNIA, 300 cases White to Extra White Orange, 90 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers.

EXTRACTED: Bottlers report using the new ceiling prices.

BEESWAX: Demand good but practically no offerings.

SEATTLE: Receipts by motor truck 125 cases Idaho. Supplies light. Demand good, market firm to stronger.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case-lots: WASHINGTON and IDAHO, Alfalfa-Sweetclover, Light Amber, 12, 5-lb. pails \$10.60-12.63; 24, 2 1/2-lb. cans \$11.04-13.40; 24, 1-lb. cans \$6.52; 12, 20-oz. jars \$3.12-3.80; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.56-2.85; 12, 11-oz. jars \$1.85-2.15; creamed honey, 24, 14-oz. cups \$5.75-6.50, 24, 40-oz. cups \$13.86..

THE 1942 CANADIAN HONEY CROP

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics in cooperation with the Dominion and Provincial Departments of Agriculture issues May 13, 1943 a third report on honey production in Canada in 1942.

SUMMARY

The third estimate of the 1942 honey crop, 24,086,100 pounds, is 3.4 million pounds or 12.4 per cent smaller than the revised estimate of the 1941 crop which is now placed at 27,487,700 pounds. Although records were established in 1942 in the numbers of beeholders and colonies yields were generally low and the total crop was below average in size.

In spite of a smaller volume of production, however, the 1942 crop of honey and wax is valued at \$3,505,000, which is \$190,200 or 5.4 per cent higher than the value of the 1941 crop. Practically the entire crop has been marketed at an average return to the producers of 13.9 cents per pound. This is 2.4 cents per pound higher than the average price paid for the 1941 crop. Some further expansion is expected in apiculture during the 1943 season.

PRODUCTION

The 1942 Canadian honey crop totaled 24,086,100 pounds as compared with 27,487,700 pounds in 1941, a decrease of 3.4 million pounds or 12.4 per cent. Although numbers of beeholders and colonies were the highest on record, average yields were disappointingly low, the average for the Dominion being only 56 pounds per hive. Sharp declines in production from the previous year were recorded in three of the main producing provinces, the decrease amounting to 35 per cent in Ontario, 37 per cent in Manitoba and 20 per cent in Alberta. These declines were only partially offset by larger crops in the other provinces.

The distribution of production in pounds follows by provinces in order of magnitude, with the revised estimates for 1941 in brackets; Ontario 7,800,000 (12,000,000), Saskatchewan 4,947,100 (2,966,500); Quebec 4,026,900 (3,042,600); Manitoba 3,142,000 (4,970,000); Alberta 2,500,000 (3,120,000); British Columbia 1,333,600 (1,169,000); New Brunswick 225,000 (124,800); Nova Scotia 78,000 (82,600); Prince Edward Island 33,500 (12,200).

Beeswax: The quantity of beeswax produced in 1942 is estimated at 361,300 pounds as compared with the revised estimate of 412,300 pounds produced in 1941.

AUG 13 1943

Telephone - REpublic 4142,
Branch 2176.Washington, D. C.
June 1, 1943 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURESEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - NO. 601INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

SUMMARY

The weather during this period was somewhat backward and unfavorable to bees in most sections of the country excepting the Southern States. Rain-fall was excessive in most of the northeastern, northcentral, and plains areas. During the early part of the period temperatures were somewhat below normal in all the northern States from the Atlantic to the Pacific. In the southern States fairly good honey flows are under way. The citrus flow in California and Florida is practically over and considerable Orange honey is moving to market. In Louisiana good surpluses of White Clover honey are being reported. The Texas and New Mexico honey flow so far has been rather disappointing. In the northern States the early spring flow is pretty well over and in many sections unfavorable weather conditions have forced bees to consume most of this production. In fact in some States considerable feeding will be necessary to carry the bees through to the main summer flows. In most sections of the country plant conditions are favorable. In the Intermountain area some alfalfa was lost from winter killing and in the Northcentral and Plains Areas considerable damage was reported to clovers. Considerable concern is being expressed over the acreage of clover and alfalfa being turned to other crops. Production of package bees in the South is nearing an end, although orders continue to come in, much later than normal. Many Northern beekeepers are having considerable difficulty in finding package bees and queens to replace winter losses and many are receiving their packages much later than they had anticipated or had hoped for.

Very little old crop honey remains either in producers or packers hands. Some bottlers have been importing fairly large quantities of honey, mostly from Cuba. Demand for new crop Southern honey is far in excess of offerings. Honey dealers and bottlers are actively trying to contract the 1943 crop in all sections. Practically all large lot sales of honey, both old and new crop, are being made at ceiling levels regardless of flavor and color.

During recent months Government authorities have been making it possible for farmers of various kinds to obtain agricultural equipment more simply. In many instances supplies for which priority applications were considered necessary can now be secured on certificates which can be obtained from the local County War Board. Further, in cases in which the value of the required critical material (making it necessary to obtain priority assistance) is not more than \$500, even PD-1A application can be processed or approved by the regional War Production Board office and not delayed by referring them to Washington. More than 80 percent of all PD-1A applications involving the use of critical material will now be handled entirely by WPB field officials.

Some supplies require no approval or authorization of any kind. Most bee supplies come in this group, though such equipment as honey tanks, filling, bottling, or labeling machinery, etc., requiring critical material, still require priority applications. It is suggested that whenever beekeepers or packers of honey need additional equipment that they make preliminary inquiry of the local County War Board to see whether authorization or assistance is necessary to obtain it, and if so how this can most readily be secured.

CUBA ISSUES REGULATIONS REGARDING EXPORTING OF HONEY

On May 5, 1943 President Batista of Cuba issued a series of "Regulations for the Export of Bees' Honey". These require (1) that all exporters of honey must be registered; (2) that honey cleaning or filtering plants must be licensed, and must be so constructed as to permit of "absolute cleanliness; adequate light and ventilation; one or more tanks or vats of galvanized iron or with cemented walls and bottom; metal cloth strainers or screens of 20-mesh (wires) per linear inch minimum, which must not be of iron and must be in sanitary and sound condition; **and tanks** which must be of wood, galvanized iron or ordinary iron, if the inside of same is treated in such a manner as to avoid contact of the honey with the iron." For containers the regulations permit "only 8-hoop barrels, duly paraffined or silicated, or new 5-gallon cans. The barrels may be new or second-hand, but in the latter case they must be well cleaned on the inside and have no odor which the honey might absorb." all containers destined for export must carry the license number of the plant.

Export inspectors assigned to the docks must inspect at least 10 percent of all packages of honey shipped or intended to be shipped." The regulations also require that "Bees' honey must, of course, be exported free from all impurities and in a condition of perfect cleanliness. Otherwise the shipment shall be rejected until the condition required for its export has been complied with." By the inspection which the regulations call for it is hoped that the present difficulties which much Cuban honey encounters after reaching American ports may be avoided.

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period May 6-24)

Southern California. Generally clear, warm weather prevailed in Southern California during most of this period. Along the coast there were some high fogs and cool nights. In the valley and desert areas high, dry winds caused some decrease in the nectar flow for sage. Despite this prospects are favorable for a fairly heavy sage flow. Most bees have been moved from the orchard sections and are now working on sage, wild alfalfa, black mustard, and various other wild flowers. Some bees are being moved to buckwheat, which is just beginning to bloom. The orange flow was fairly good, averaging in most sections around 60 pounds per colony, with some beekeepers reporting yields somewhat higher. Many producers feel that the orange honey crop was the best in yield, color, and body secured in several years. It is running Extra Light Amber to Water White, mostly White to Water White. Extracting and delivery of Orange honey has been active, with demand running far ahead of supply. All sales of this variety have been reported at the ceiling level of \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds, f.o.b. country points, regardless of color. A few small lots of Extra Light Amber Mixed Flowers sold at \$14.10 per case, f.o.b. country points. Very little beeswax is available. Sales were reported at the ceiling of 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash, 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. country points.

Imperial Valley. Considerable wind during this period retarded gathering of honey. However, with the warm weather bees have been able to store some surplus. Alfalfa and melons are the principal nectar sources. Arrow weed is about over for this season. Buyers have been active, and present indications are that about half of the 1943 crop in this section has been contracted for. All sales reported were at ceiling level of \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds for Light Amber Alfalfa.

Central California. Temperatures over most of this district were somewhat above normal, but favorable for bee activity. Strong drying winds in some sections shut off the sage flow for a short time, but later reports indicate that this flow is again picking up and should soon be normal. The orange crop is falling short of earlier expectations, with yields being reported all the way from 10 to 50 pounds per colony, with the average for the district as a whole probably running around 40 pounds. The color and flavor of the Orange honey is reported to be very good. A little nectar is available from second cutting alfalfa, but usually no appreciable surplus is made until the third cutting. Buyers are actively taking all Orange honey in sight at ceiling prices. Offerings, however, have been very light. Sales by producers - extracted, per lb., ton lots or more delivered Interior Valley points - Extra White Orange and Extra White Sage 12¢; delivered Bay Cities via truck - White to Extra White Orange 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ -12 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Light Amber Mixed Flowers and Light Amber Eucalyptus 12-12 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢.

Northern California. During the early part of this period rather frequent cold north winds and cloudy days caused many colonies to consume most of their stores in some sections of the Sacramento Valley. Some colonies were reported on the verge of starvation, while a few beekeepers were feeding to maintain colony strength, especially in those colonies from which package bees had been taken. Toward the end of the month weather conditions were more favorable, with temperatures running above normal. Present prospects are excellent for star thistle and various mountain wild flowers. Most bees have been moved from the orchard districts either to the mountains or to the vegetable seed-producing areas. Some nectar is being gathered from California poppy, eucalyptus, filaree, mustard, and buckeye. However, only a very few colonies are building up any surplus. Sales by producers ton lots or more, delivered Interior Valley points - new crop, Light Amber to Extra Light Amber Manzanita 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. with cans and cases returned, Extra Light Amber Manzanita 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ -12¢ with cans furnished; delivered Bay Cities via truck - White Star Thistle old crop 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period May 6-24)

West of Cascades. Temperatures have been somewhat below normal during most of this period with intermittent showers in the lower altitudes and light frosts in the mountains. Plant growth has been slow. Many colonies are somewhat weaker than they were several weeks earlier, due to the fact that adverse weather conditions prevented them from gathering much early nectar. Some swarming has been reported. Along the coast and in the Willamette Valley bees are working on Scotch broom, lupin, white clover, cascara and various berries. The flow from common

- continued -

vetch is increasing. While the season is late it is expected that vetch will yield fairly well although the acreage is somewhat lighter than in recent years so that the total production from this source may be disappointing. Alfalfa is making a good growth. Little honey is available and no sales were reported.

East of Cascades. Cool, rainy, windy weather has prevented bees from working during much of this period. Wild plants in the hills have bloomed well and locusts are now in full bloom but weather has prevented bees from gathering much nectar. Consumption of stores during this period has been heavier than normal. One progressive beekeeper in the Yakima Valley reports that his scale hive lost twelve pounds during this fifteen day period. Some feeding may be necessary as there will be few flowers available until the main alfalfa and clover flow. Unusual interest has been shown on the part of amateurs in this section.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period May 7-24)

Weather conditions over most of the Intermountain area were far less favorable than earlier in the season. For the area as a whole the amount of honey gathered from the fruit bloom and dandelion flow was rather disappointing and in many cases such honey as was gathered has been consumed during recent weeks. In many yards feeding will be necessary to carry the bees through to the main alfalfa and clover flows. Moisture conditions appear favorable except on the Western Slope of Colorado where the winter snowfall and spring run-off were lighter than normal. In the alfalfa areas of Utah, Idaho, and Montana winter killing was quite severe and some acreage is being turned under. In some sections there appears to be some over-stocking of bees. No offerings or sales of honey were reported during this period. A few small lots of beeswax moved at the ceiling of 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash to beekeepers. Details by States follow:

Colorado. The weather has been unseasonably cold and windy during most of this period, with two snow storms around the middle of the month in some of the mountain sections. While some nectar was gathered during the early part of the season, little was available from the last half of the fruit bloom. Most colonies have consumed most of the early stores gathered and many are now being fed to carry them through to the alfalfa and clover flow. On the Western Slope the winter snowfall was less than normal which resulted in a very light spring run-off and a lighter than normal supply of irrigation water.

Wyoming. Over most of the State May rainfall has been normal or slightly heavier than normal. Colonies are generally strong for this season because of the warm April, but little nectar was gathered in most sections due to the fact that bees were unable to work during much of May. Considerable alfalfa acreage has been plowed under for beans and grain. In some of the irrigated sections there has been some over-stocking of bees which may cut colony yields.

Montana. The first half of May was unusually cool over most of Montana. Most beekeepers report very little nectar gathered from dandelions although the bloom was fairly good. On the other hand, one large beekeeper in southwestern Montana reported that his bees stored around 40 pounds per colony from this flow. Many colonies are in strong condition, while others are weak. It has been difficult to obtain packages and queens to make up winter losses, and some beekeepers report that shipments of package bees are coming through in rather poor condition. Considerable winter loss of alfalfa was reported. Much of this acreage is being plowed up and reseeded to grain.

Idaho. The early part of this period was cold with some freezing at night, while toward the end of the period days were warmer. Dandelions are seeding rapidly, but it is hoped that bees may be able to obtain sufficient nectar from this source to last them until alfalfa begins to bloom. Much of the alfalfa over two years old was winter killed in the Upper Snake River Valley. New plantings of clover and alfalfa suffered somewhat from late frosts.

Utah. Throughout the State as a whole bees are in fairly good condition. In northern Utah considerable nectar was gathered from dandelion and fruit bloom during April, but since that time there has been a dearth of nectar and around the middle of May weather conditions were rather unfavorable so that consumption of stores was quite heavy. Considerable swarming has been reported. In southwestern Utah a moderate crop of honey has been obtained. In the Northern fruit sections many bees have been lost from what appears to have been poisoning, although the exact cause of this poisoning has not been determined to date.

Nevada. Heavy frosts occurred over much of western and northern Nevada freezing some fruit bloom and injuring alfalfa and other nectar-producing plants. In some cases feeding will be necessary to carry the bees until new bloom appears.

ARIZONA: (Period May 7-24)

The Mesquite flow is practically over. The crop was only fair for the State as a whole. The flow was fairly good along the rivers but was very spotted in the mountain and desert areas. Catsclaw is heavily loaded with bloom and should yield well. Alfalfa is blooming. Only a few sales of honey were reported with Light Amber Mixed Flowers in case to ten lots at 12¢ per lb., and 1-lb. glass jars 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period May 10-25)

Northeast Texas. Weather conditions have been fine during this period. Horsemint, one of the major honey plants in this area, should begin producing about June 1. This is usually the source of a surplus crop of good table honey. Bees are working on yellow sweetclover, alfalfa, locust, milkweed, sunac, and daisies and are storing considerable very good quality honey from these sources. Queens are still expanding brood nests. Where sufficient stores are available. Limited swarming is reported. There is a good local demand for the early crop of honey.

Southeast Texas. Light showers have fallen over parts of this section, but more rain is needed as summer plants are drying up rapidly. Beekeepers are busy harvesting a fair crop of Guajillo and Catsclaw honey. A flow from mesquite and cotton is expected during June. On account of poor summer prospects, some careful beekeepers have taken very little of the spring crop, preferring to leave it with the bees until something else is in sight. Many package bees are being shipped by express and many are going by truck. Demand for honey is very good. All first extractions are selling at ceiling prices.

Southwest Texas. A few showers are reported but not enough to furnish sufficient moisture. Horsemint is in bloom but is not producing much nectar. Some beekeepers report that their bees are not bringing in enough nectar to meet feed requirements. Some honey brought in from west Texas, where white brush and catsclaw are producing, is being sold at 30¢ per lb. in glass jars.

Oklahoma. Heavy rains continued over a ten-day period. This interfered with bee activity, and slowed broodrearing considerably. Shortage of food in the hives also has retarded broodrearing. Due to the rains the worker bees were unable to replenish the stores. Yellow sweetclover is just coming into bloom and production from that source should be ample.

New Mexico. Hot, dry winds with no rain have prevailed in the Mesilla Valley. Wild flowers have dried badly, - and with the first alfalfa cut there is very little for the bees to work on now. A little sweetclover is starting to bloom. The hives have about 25 pounds of Mesquite honey but beekeepers hesitate to take it off for fear of disturbing the bees at this time.

Arkansas. Record heavy rains were reported in some of the honey producing areas. Holly and rattan have yielded very well. Some beekeepers report that their colonies have produced over 100 pounds of light colored, heavy honey from holly. Bees are working now on vetch, which seems to be furnishing a good flow. Package bees are still in demand, shippers being booked up through June 6. Honey is in good demand and is moving very well, but no quotations are available. A little beeswax was sold locally at 38-41¢ per lb.

PLAINS AREA: (Period May 11-26)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. Weather has mostly been favorable to bee activity and plant growth. Cold weather earlier had kept broodrearing down and a recent hard freeze set back the willow and fruit blooms so that the season is generally two to three weeks later than normal. However, now the bees are working on fruit blooms and dandelion with satisfactory results. Package bees are arriving but in most instances reported they have been from one to two days longer on the road than formerly. Honey is very scarce. One large lot of Sweetclover honey was reported sold at 12¢ per lb. f.o.b. shipping point, and some Buckwheat in single 60s sold in a small way at 12¢ per lb. and in 5-lb. pails at 18¢ per lb.

South Dakota. The first part of this period was very windy and cool, but the last part was quite warm and pleasant in the eastern part of the State. In the western part beneficial rains were reported. The season is about three weeks later than last spring. Package bees are building up nicely, although some losses of queens were reported upon first examination after their installation. Bees gathered considerable pollen and nectar from fruit blossoms and dandelions.

Iowa. Cold weather has continued and in some parts of the State almost daily rains were reported. In the western part of the State there have been only a few days in which the bees could make a living. Clovers are looking well but acreage is definitely reduced through winter killing and diversion of land to other uses. On account of the limited number of days the bees could work much feeding has been necessary. Some producers have used all their honey reserves and are using sugar. The bees are building up and should be in fair condition for the main honey flow. Some swarming is reported. Lilac, apple and cherry blossoms are just over and some blossoms on yellow sweetclover are appearing in scattered places. Dandelions are in full bloom now and are yielding a good flow when bees can work. Honey is practically all out of producers' hands. Buyers are actively endeavoring to secure options on this season's crop.

Kansas. Excessive rains have fallen in the eastern part of the State accompanied by cold weather, while in the western and northern parts there has been little or no rain. Pastures and alfalfa are growing very well. White and yellow sweetclover are in full bloom. Colonies in the eastern part of the State have been confined to the hives much of the time and are getting very low on stores. Much feeding may be necessary because of this bad weather.

Nebraska. Cold, cloudy, and rainy weather continues in this State. Yellow sweetclover is commencing to bloom. White clover acreage has been much reduced and plants are not coming up too well in the fields that remain, so that prospects of a crop from that source are limited. It has required considerable feeding to get the bees built up. In many cases losses and dwindling were heavy. Some American foulbrood is reported but it is not widespread. Strong colonies are making a living on good days and some swarming has occurred. Deliveries of package bees and queens are late.

Missouri. Steady rains during the past period. Washing and flooding in some parts of this State have retarded activity in all respects. Bottom lands are still flooded in some counties. Much feeding has been necessary but the last few days have cleared so bees may be able to make a living. Yellow sweetclover is starting to bloom now and if warm weather continues the white clover will be blooming shortly.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period May 11-26)

Michigan. Northern Peninsula - The ground is very wet in this section. Clovers are not as good as usual at this time of year. Dandelions are starting to bloom. Bees were quite strong and hives were full of brood, but rains and cold, windy weather have retarded them somewhat. Southern Peninsula - Heavy rains, continuing as long as ten days in some parts of this section, were reported. Field work is at a standstill, and the season is about 3 weeks late. Bees are unable to get out, and some beekeepers report difficulty in taking care of their colonies. Queen clipping and inspection are behind schedule on account of constant rains. Dandelion and fruit blooms are about over and bees did not get their usual supply of nectar and pollen which usually carries them through to the clover season. Reports of winter losses continue to come; some estimate as high as 40 percent loss. Very few sales were reported during the period just closed. Extracted Clover honey in 5-lb. containers sold at 16¢ per lb., Amber Alfalfa and Golden Rod in 40s sold at 12¢ per lb., capping melter Clover honey at 10-11¢ per lb. Crude beeswax brought 41¢-43¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers, with some refined as high as 57¢ per lb.

Wisconsin. After rather cold weather, light rainfall with about normal temperatures have been very beneficial to the growing crops. The season is somewhat late but clovers are in good condition. The frequent rains have prevented bees from taking full advantage of fruit bloom and dandelions. Some feeding has been necessary where colonies were short of stores, some beekeepers using as much as eight pounds of sugar per colony. Broodrearing is advancing but great numbers of colonies will not be up to their peak before the clover flow, even though it will be late. Reports of winter losses vary, some beekeepers report losses as high as 50 percent and some bees are still dying of nosema. Package bees are arriving and are being introduced successfully. Requests for first available honey are coming in. A few sales of extracted Clover honey in 5-lb. pails were reported at 15.7¢ per lb., White Clover and Amber Mixed Flowers sold for 17¢ per lb. direct to consumers.

Minnesota. The weather in this State was varied. Rain and snow fell in some sections. In other parts favorable temperatures were reported with some rain and some fine sunny days. Moisture is ample. Clovers look well, and a few blossoms are appearing. In some sections considerable clover was plowed up and much alsike was winter-killed. Some clover weevil has been reported. Basswood is not setting many buds this season. Considerable pollen and nectar were obtained from fruit bloom and dandelion. Some nosema has appeared and a considerable percentage of the colonies in certain areas are infected. Practically no sales of honey or beeswax are reported.

Ohio. Heavy washing and flooding rains during the first week of this period were followed with daily showers for the remainder of the time. The weather has been very favorable for clovers. Dutch white clover is abundant and is showing buds and a few blossoms. In some cases, however, beekeepers have been unable to reach their hives on account of high water and soft ground. Winter losses have been heavy and are still mounting. Some feeding is necessary to carry many bees over. Requeening has been difficult due to bad weather. On the few days the bees are able to fly they are getting nectar from tulip and locust trees, which are at least 10 days late. The market is practically bare of honey. Numerous honey packers are contacting producers for the 1943 crop.

Indiana. Much damage from heavy rains and flooding are reported. Many fields are still under water or waterlogged and bottoms along streams are still flooded. Clover plants, especially White Dutch and Alsike, are in good condition. Bees have had little opportunity to gather nectar from fruit blossoms and many colonies are near the starvation point. Honey is about cleaned up. A few 1-lb. glass jars of Amber extracted honey sold at 22¢ per jar. Beeswax sold at 43¢ per lb. in trade.

Illinois. Washing and flooding rains were followed by cold weather, with very little sunshine. Clover, - white Dutch, alsike, and sweet, are plentiful, although some fields have been plowed up for other crops. Extensive feeding is necessary to carry the bees through to the clover flow. Package bees are arriving and being introduced as fast as weather permits but some, which were ordered for April have not been received. Some strong colonies have 10 or more frames of brood. Winter losses are very heavy in some areas. On the days the bees can fly they are working on black locust which is ready now. Bad weather prevented the bees from getting nectar and pollen from the fruit blooms. Very little honey is available. A little bulk honey was sold to consumers at 15¢ per lb. and some in single 60s at 12¢ per lb.

Kentucky. This State also has had too much rainy and cool weather. Honey plants are in excellent condition. Yellow sweetclover is beginning to bloom. Colony strength is increasing rapidly. The weather has retarded bee activity but on favorable days the bees have been busy working on locust, blackberry, alfalfa, white and alsike clovers.

NORTHEASTERN STATES: (Period May 12-27)

New York. Temperatures have been rather low, with only a few warm days. Heavy rains have fallen over almost the entire State during the period just closed. Clovers are in fine condition. Most of the bees have been unpacked and while there are fair numbers of bees and some brood, there is very little honey. Spring dwindling has been rather heavy and winter losses reported show a wide range in percentage. Some producers report that they have not yet received the package bees which they ordered. Bees have had only a few days to work the apple blossoms and dandelions, and these sources of nectar and pollen will soon be over. Many colonies may require feeding to carry them through to the clover flow. A few scattered sales of extracted honey are reported at 18¢ per lb. in one and five-pound containers.

Vermont. Weather has been quite wet, and the ground now has a very good moisture content. Planting has been delayed by the heavy rains. Bees are working on dandelion and fruit blossoms on good days.

Connecticut. Unfavorable weather has prevailed during much of past two weeks. Clovers look very well and should be blooming in another week. The late cold spring has increased the loss in bees, and even with the fruit trees in full bloom many colonies were on the verge of starvation. Now they are getting nectar from blueberry and blackberry blossoms. Wild cherry is just beginning to bloom.

New Jersey. The rainfall in New Jersey has been heavy. More sunshine and warmth are needed for the growing crops and bees. Clovers look promising. The weather discouraged broodrearing and in many places bees have consumed all their reserve stores. Some colonies have built up well during the past two weeks on dandelion and fruit bloom and stored considerable nectar on the good days. Queen raisers are having poor results in mating queens due to the sudden and heavy rains.

Pennsylvania. Precipitation during the past two weeks is away above normal. Temperatures have run about normal or a little higher. Clover is making rapid growth and basswood, raspberry, blackberry and sumac are all in fine condition. Bees have wintered well where they had ample stores. Broodrearing is slow but colonies with plenty of stores will be ready for the main honey flow when it comes. On the few days the bees could fly they gathered plenty of pollen but got very little nectar. As a result many colonies may require feeding to carry them through.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period May 12-27)

Maryland. Moderate temperatures have prevailed with frequent light to heavy rains. Tulip poplar and magnolias, numerous small fruits and shrubs are furnishing nectar when weather permits bees to fly. Clover is in bloom and looks very promising. In some sections the black locust failed to bloom this season, which is the second year in succession, and dandelion blooms did not furnish the usual supply of pollen. The flows from apple blossoms and mustard were heavy, but both were interrupted by rains. Little swarming is reported and many hives are requiring supers.

West Virginia. Precipitation in this State has been about normal and temperatures somewhat higher than usual for the season. Meadows and pastures are growing well. White clover is beginning to bloom and on good days bees should get a good supply of nectar from this source.

Virginia. The past two weeks have been warm with moderate to heavy rains. The tulip poplars and basswood are still in bloom, but the flow from these sources is spotty. Some colonies have stored twenty to thirty pounds from this source. Feeding was necessary in some apiaries, but in spite of this losses have been heavy. Prospects for a good crop from sourwood are promising.

North Carolina. Favorable temperatures and generally adequate rainfall were reported for this State. The flow from crimson clover and poplar was not very heavy. With the early honey flow about over many comb honey sections are unfinished.

SOUTHEASTERN STATES: (Period May 11-26)

Georgia. Adequate to too much rain is reported for this State. All crops are growing rapidly. The weather has greatly reduced the honey flow from gallberry. New honey is being taken off all over the southern part of the State and extracting will begin shortly. The honey is very fine in quality and beekeepers are contracting and selling at ceiling prices.

Florida. Daily rains, mostly occurring in the afternoon, during the past two weeks have kept the bees from working full days, but they have been able to gather some nectar almost every day. Orange, tupelo and gallberry yields are over and most beekeepers report crops running from one-third to one-half of normal. Prospects for the palmetto flow are good; some producers report the best in several years. One scale hive is showing a gain of three pounds per day, and other colonies may be gaining more. The demand for package bees continues much later than usual. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted, Light Amber to White Orange, case to ten lots and in barrels 12¢; in small pails and 1-lb. glass jars 15¢ per lb.; 2-lb. glass jars \$4.75 per doz.; 3-lb. glass jars \$6.85 per doz.

Alabama. Favorable temperatures and adequate rains prevailed. Cotton is progressing very well, both as to growth and condition. Pastures are refreshed by the rains.

Louisiana. Dry weather prevailed until near the close of the period when much needed rains came. Although it is too early to get an average of the spring flow, colonies which were properly cared for before and during the flow have produced well. Some producers report an average production per colony of 90 pounds. Many orders for queens and package bees are still coming in, but the season for shipping will soon be over. Package bee colonies have been weakened by frequent disturbance and must have an opportunity to rebuild. Honey is lighter in color than is usual and has a good body and flavor. There is a heavy demand for honey by consumers. A few f.o.b. sales of 60s were reported at 12¢ per lb., containers returned.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the last of May. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: L.e.l. receipts equivalent 1 car Ohio.

COMB: No supplies on market.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand good, market strong. All sales on f.o.b. basis.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by truck 480 lbs. Wis. No supplies on market. No sales reported.

BEESWAX: Dealers paying for occasional available lot 41½-43½¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

CLEVELAND: No supplies on market. No sales reported.

DENVER: No receipts reported. Demand good, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers and direct to large retailers - COLORADO, White to Water White, Sweetclover-Alfalfa, cases, 12, 2-lb. glass jars \$4.50-4.70; 12, 2½-lb. glass jars \$6.30-6.90; 12, 24-oz. glass jars \$3.35-3.65; 24, 1-lb. glass jars \$4.70-5.00.

BEESWAX: Receipts approx. 1,000 lbs. Demand good, market steady. Dealers paying 41½¢ per lb. for domestic crude.

DETROIT: Receipts extracted 3,000 lbs. Fla. No sales reported.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, extracted 180, 60-lb. cans Minn. White Sweetclover.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Market firm at ceiling prices. No sales to bakers, baker supply houses and confectioners. Sales to wholesale grocers - MINNESOTA, Sweetclover, U. S. No. 1, blended honey 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.27; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.57. Sales to retail grocers - MINNESOTA, Sweetclover, 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.59; 24, 17-oz. jars \$5.75; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.93.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: by rail, origin not specified, 493,200 lbs. and 2 cars, 1 car Ohio. Demand good, market unsettled. Very few sales.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers - OHIO, Clover 24, 1-lb. jars \$6.06. Trading on imported honey awaiting price amendment.

BEESWAX: Origin not specified 9,874 lbs. Supplies very light. Sales by receivers basis Port of entry - SOUTH AMERICA, WEST INDIES and CUBA, sun-bleachable 44-3/4¢; non-sun-bleachable 41½¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Arrivals: by truck 1,200 lbs. origin not known. No offerings. No prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck, 3,300 lbs. bottled Midwestern. Nothing offered. No sales.

PORTLAND: Receipts via motor truck, Extracted, 50 barrels origin not specified. Supplies very light. Demand active, market firm. Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots -

EXTRACTED: IDAHO, Sweetclover-Alfalfa 12, 5-lb. cans \$12.48; 12, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. cans \$6.60; 12, 5-lb. jars \$11.96-12.52. UTAH, bulk Amber 19¢ per lb.

COMB: No supplies.

BEEWAX: Supplies moderate. Demand good, market steady. Dealers paying 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per pound in cash or 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per pound trade.

ST. LOUIS: No offerings or trading reported.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND and ALAMEDA: Receipts via truck - Central California, 1,634 cases White to Extra White Orange, 121 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers, 59 cases Light Amber Eucalyptus; Northern California, 190 cases Star Thistle (old crop).

EXTRACTED: Bottlers report using new ceiling prices.

BEEWAX: Demand good but no offerings.

SEATTLE: Receipts by motor truck 304 cases Idaho. Demand good. Supplies very light. Market firm

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case-lots: WASHINGTON, and IDAHO, Alfalfa-Sweetclover, Light Amber, 12, 5-lb. pails \$10.60-12.63; 24, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. cans \$11.04-13.40; 24, 1-lb. cans \$6.52; 12, 20-oz. jars \$3.12-3.80; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.56-2.85; 12, 11-oz. jars \$1.85-2.15; creamed honey, 24, 14-oz. cups \$5.75-6.50; 24, 40-oz. cups \$13.86.

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Washington, D. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
June 15, 1943.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - NO. 502

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

SUMMARY

Honey production during the period just closed was considerably curtailed over most of the United States by weather conditions and the limited honey sources. In California the orange flow is practically over so that adjustments were necessary to get started on the sage flow. In the Pacific Northwest cool or cold weather slowed up honey production as well as the fact that fruit blossoms and dandelions were over and alfalfa was not yet ready for the main flow. In the Plains Area and Intermountain Region, although the bees had made good progress during April and part of May, except in a few States, either unusually cold weather or heavy rains during the period just closed checked activity so that the bees consumed most of their previous gains and in many sections much late feeding was required. In the East Central and North Central and the Northeastern States the backward spring together with unusually heavy rains in most all these States has retarded bee activity and prevented the usual spring build-up on fruit blossoms and other early flowers which would have put the bees in condition for the main flow from clover and alfalfa. However, due to excessive moisture over most of the Clover Belt, the clover and alfalfa are growing very well and should furnish a fine flow. In the South the citrus flow is over, as is the Palmetto flow in Florida and the Mesquite flow in Arizona.

From reports received it seems that the number of colonies in good condition may be less than in previous years. Quite a few amateurs are showing interest in bees but many seasoned beekeepers have found it necessary to reduce or not replace their full number of colonies. Southern beekeepers who ship bees report that they have depleted their colonies in their effort to fill the orders for package bees. Orders for queens are still being filled but orders for bees have been cancelled in many cases.

Extracting of new crop honey is progressing but shortage of help and rush of other work has retarded it in some places. Demand for honey is very good. Beekeepers are receiving offers of contracts for their entire output. Practically all large lot sales of both new and old honey are being made at ceiling prices.

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period May 24-June 7)

Southern California. Weather has been rather cool with some high fogs along the coast, which also extended far inland on some days. The weather conditions have interfered somewhat with bee activity. Most bees are in fair condition and are building up after the orange flow. They are busy on sage, wild alfalfa, locust, and some mustard but in most locations the nectar flow has been rather light. Some yards are being moved to better locations for buckwheat, sage, and alfalfa. Production from sage looks very good in the interior regions, but the total for the State probably will be below early estimates. There has been a good demand for both orange and sage honey, and a number of producers are about sold out. Some extracting of orange honey is still in progress. Sales of all grades of Orange honey ranging from Extra Light Amber to Water White are reported at the ceiling price of \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds f.o.b. country points. Some lots of Extra White to Water White Sage and Light Amber to Extra Light Amber Mixed Flowers were sold at \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds f.o.b. country points. The market on beeswax is steady with light offerings. Sales of a few lots were reported at 41¢ per lb. cash and 43¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. country points.

Imperial Valley. Recent weather in the Valley has been rather cool. Bees are working on alfalfa and melon blossoms, but there is little secretion. The main flow has not started yet but most colonies are in good condition and should do well on it. Some colonies are being brought in from other locations.

Central California. Temperatures were mostly below normal with considerable fog and cold winds in the coastal districts and some wind in the valley regions. Bees are in fair condition, many colonies are below normal working strength. Beekeepers are bringing their bees back from the orange districts. They are working on spikeweed, Ladino clover, alfalfa, and sage. Sage is yielding well in some locations. Buckwheat looks promising. The orange crop was short of expectations and on account of labor shortage producers are behind with their extracting. Demand for honey continues active at ceiling prices

: See Amendment No. 5 to MPR 275 (on page 8) :

with plenty of buyers and at present not enough honey to go around. Honey is being bottled about as fast as received by bottlers account of an unprecedented demand from retailers. Sales by producers - Extracted, per lb., ton lots or more - delivered Bay Cities via truck- White to Extra White Orange $12\frac{1}{4}$ - $12\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; White to Water White Sage $12\frac{1}{4}$ - $12\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Light Amber to White Buckwheat $12\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Amber to Light Amber Mixed Flowers 12 - $12\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; delivered Interior Valley Points - Extra White Orange 12 ¢; Extra White Sage 12 ¢.

Northern California. Precipitation was light to moderate in the coastal and mountain districts but elsewhere there was little or none. Temperatures were mostly below normal except in the vicinity of Sacramento where they were slightly above. Bees are reported as fair to good condition. Some colonies have light stores and a few are weak because bees were taken out for shipment. Some feeding may be required during the next two weeks. Many colonies are being moved to river bottoms or to higher elevations. Poppy, mustard, Ladino clover, and some privet and alfalfa are furnishing nectar and pollen at this time. Prospects of a flow from Star thistle vary, in some areas they are considered good but in other areas they are not so promising, due to too much dry wind. Sales by producers (ton lots or more): delivered Bay Cities via truck- no sales reported; delivered Interior Valley Points - Extracted, per lb. - new crop - White Manzanita 12 ¢; Light Amber Mixed Flowers 11 - $11\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, some at 12 ¢; old crop - Extra Light Amber Thistle 12 ¢.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period May 24-June 7)

West of Cascades. Temperatures continue slightly below normal with considerable cloudiness and high fog, interspersed with some warm, sunny days. Alfalfa is doing well and in southern Oregon it is starting to bloom. Blackberry and fireweed are looking very promising and should provide a surplus in season. Vetch, alfalfa, white clover, crimson clover, lupin, Scotch broom, and other wild flowers should be offering nectar and pollen but it is reported that bees are not working actively, indicating that they are not getting feed from these sources. Earlier gains in stores have been drawn on heavily to continue broodrearing. In some parts of the area strong colonies are putting in about a super of comb honey per week, in other sections noticeable gains are reported. High losses from starvation are still being reported. Swarming is persistent, some colonies seem to be preparing for a second period of swarming.

East of Cascades. During the first week of this period the weather was cold and windy, but during the last week there were a few warm days. Bees were very short on stores, and in most all sections colonies were rather weak due principally to lateness of the season. The first crop of alfalfa produced a good flow, but reports indicate that the gain in stores caused considerable swarming which left approximately 10% of colonies queenless. Locust is in full bloom in the Walla Walla area, but bees are working it very lightly. Yellow sweetclover is blooming in the Yakima Valley in a scattered way, but there probably will be enough food from it to carry the bees through to the second alfalfa bloom which will be on in about two weeks. A scale hive in the Yakima Valley is reported to have lost five pounds during the first week of this period, but since weather has warmed up it gained seven pounds in a week. Some beekeepers are doubtful if the crop this year will be up to average. There has been no extracting of new crop honey reported.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period May 24-June 8)

Cold, cloudy weather has prevailed over most of this area. Light freezes and snow and hail in the higher elevations were reported. Soil moisture is ample in most of these States. Alfalfa in several of the States is blooming sparingly, and much of the first crop will be cut before it is in bloom. Yellow sweetclover is starting to bloom, but the main clover flow may be somewhat later than usual especially in Wyoming. Light to heavy feeding is reported by most beekeepers. Very little honey is available. A few sales of extracted in 5-lb. pails were reported at 13 ¢ per lb. Beeswax sold at 40 - $41\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. Some Dark Mixed Flowers in single 60s sold at 12 ¢ per lb. Details by States follow:

Colorado. Rainfall was below normal in the southeastern and southern parts of this State, elsewhere there has been ample rainfall, and in some places, particularly in the northern section unusually low temperatures were reported. Plants are in good condition except alfalfa which was so badly damaged by both drought and freezing. Yellow sweetclover is beginning to bloom and bees are gathering some nectar and pollen from it whenever weather permits. That colony strength was lost somewhat during the past month, and feeding was necessary to carry the bees through is reported by some beekeepers, but others report colonies are strong and that swarming is unusually heavy.

Wyoming. During the past two weeks weather has been cold and cloudy over most of this area. Heavy rains occurred in southern part of the State, while in the central part snow and freezing temperatures are reported. Soil and moisture conditions are good. Yellow sweetclover has started to bloom but other clovers and alfalfa will be about two weeks later than normal. In the meantime bees are requiring heavy feeding, some recent losses from starvation are reported. Dandelion bloom is over and very little nectar was obtained from that source.

Montana. The last week in May was favorable weather but the first week in June was cool and cloudy with soaking rains over much of the State and heavy snows in the higher elevations. Soil is now abundantly supplied with moisture and need for irrigation is relieved. Yellow sweetclover is beginning to bloom but other clovers will not be ready before July. Yield from dandelion is reported very light. Reports indicate heavy feeding is necessary. Late delivery of queens and packaged bees continues to retard colony build up.

Idaho. In this State warm, sunshiny weather was reported for the last week in May, but temperatures below normal with moderate to heavy rains with considerable wind were reported during the first week in June. In the eastern part of the State several killing frosts were reported during the period just closed. Many colonies have been moved to better locations. Losses from starvation were considerable. A large percentage of the colonies have required feeding, but in spite of feeding their condition is not up to normal for this season. Some have lost considerable brood, and a little swarming is reported. There is a fair honey flow from yellow sweetclover and white clover in the western part of the State. First crop of alfalfa is being cut, so apparently the main flow from this source will be late.

Utah. Cold, windy weather, with hail, cold rain and snow on the mountain summits prevailed over this State during the period just closed. Considerable of the first crop alfalfa is being cut before it blooms, which should bring the second crop into bloom earlier than usual. Although most colonies laid up a sufficient supply of stores during April to carry them through to the main flow, a few are requiring feeding. However, with a few good days work on alfalfa, yellow sweetclover, and mustard, which are now ready bees should be in very good condition.

Nevada. Weather conditions continue bad, with much wind and several hard freezes, especially in the western part of this area. Light to moderate precipitation is reported. Much of the alfalfa was so badly damaged that few blooms if any appeared on first crop. This crop is now being cut. Beekeepers may have to plan to carry the bees through until the flow from the second crop of alfalfa and clover is available.

ARIZONA: (Period May 24-June 8)

Continued drought conditions prevail in this State. The mesquite flow is over with a yield of 70 pounds per colony reported by some beekeepers. Bees are being taken to alfalfa locations where light flow is reported available. New crop Mesquite extracted is quoted at 12¢ per lb. for ten lots, 12¹/₂¢ per lb. for single 60s, and 16¢ per lb. in 5-lb. pails or jars, f.o.b. to beekeepers. Beeswax is quoted at 41¹/₂¢ per lb. f.o.b. country points.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period May 25-June 9)

Southeast Texas. Light showers during the first part of this period did not supply much moisture and the soil is very dry again. Honey plants are badly in need of rain. Those colonies which were stripped of bees to fill package orders and even some fairly strong ones are gaining very slowly. Many of them consumed considerable stores which had been accumulated earlier. The mesquite and cotton flow has been slow in starting but the suitable weather during the past week has restored hopes for a fairly good summer flow.

Southwest Texas. Recent rains have created a good honey flow from white brush, mesquite, horsemint, and a few other plants. Some beekeepers report they have put on three supers. Demand for bees and queens is better than usual at this season of the year. Honey is in good demand. One large lot of extracted Guajillo-Catsclaw sold at 12¢ per lb., while Mixed Flowers in case lots sold at 11-12¢ per lb. A few single 60s sold at 15¢ per lb., 5-lb. containers brought 16¢ per lb. and 1-lb. glass jars 23¢ per jar. Beeswax, dark to average sold at 38-41¢ per lb.

Rio Grande Valley. Honey dealers and bottlers are buying all the honey they can at the ceiling price of 12¢ per lb. Sales of Light Amber Citrus are reported at 14-15¢ per lb. for single 60s, 17¢ per lb. for 5-lb. pails and 23¹/₂¢ per lb. for jars. Average beeswax is selling at 41¹/₂¢ per lb. Stores are said to be well supplied with honey, which is selling slowly at present.

Arkansas. Bees are building up fast now. There is no particular flow on at present, but colonies are getting enough nectar and pollen from scattered blooms to stimulate broodrearing and to prepare them for the cotton flow. More orders for package bees have been received than could be filled. Very little extracting of new crop honey is reported at present.

PLAINS AREA: (Period May 25-June 9)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. Weather generally had been unfavorable to bee activity, but during June a few good days are reported in the valley. Clover is making rapid growth and may be ready for the main flow before the bees are sufficiently built up to take advantage of it. In parts of this area bees are still working on dandelion and starting on mustard. Queens and package bees are slow in arriving and in some instances orders were cancelled

and in some cases where orders did arrive a large percentage of the queens were dead when received. Feeding is necessary in many yards although some beekeepers report they have strong colonies with plenty of brood. A few sales of Mixed Flowers extracted honey were made at 18¢ per lb. for 5-lb. pails. Medium country run beeswax sold at 41½¢ per lb.

Iowa. Although the first part of the period was very warm with lighter and less frequent rains, the second part was cold with frequent rains and some freezing in parts of the State. Alfalfa is nearly ready for the first cutting. The clovers look well, but acreage is considerably less than in previous years. Yellow sweet, white Dutch and alsike ^{clover} are blooming but bees have not had many days to work on it. Colony development is fairly satisfactory. Feeding has been required in most yards during the past two weeks. Producers are planning to move some yards to more favorable locations as soon as the clover fields are fully ready. Package bees arrived and in some instances number of bees received was not satisfactory. Demand for equipment has been good.

Kansas. Favorable temperatures with plenty of sunshine and some rain in eastern part of the State were reported for the first part of the period, but during the latter part cloudiness prevailed over most of the State. Alfalfa did not bloom well before the first crop was cut. Bees are working on white and yellow sweetclover and a good flow is reported. Some swarming is noted. A little honey is selling at retail at 35¢ for 1-lb. bottles and 65¢ for 2-lb. bottles.

Nebraska. After a week of fairly good weather with practically no rain, cold weather was reported accompanied with adequate rain except in the southeastern area where washing and flooding rains reported. The first cutting of alfalfa is about completed. Bees are storing some surplus in the eastern part of the State from yellow sweetclover and white Dutch clover. Colonies generally are restless, some killing of brood, and some swarming, are reported. Some producers are unable to operate their usual numbers of hives on account of inability to get package bees as ordered and the scarcity of food for new colonies.

Missouri. Although rain was reported over most of the State except in the southeastern counties during the week just closed, the last week in May was more favorable and some field work could be done. Yellow sweetclover is in bloom, and white clover will be in bloom before long. However, bees are getting only a few hours flight at a time, and consequently are not able to take advantage of the blossoms.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period May 26-June 10)

Michigan. After about the wettest May recorded at many stations and mostly light to excessive rains during the first few days of June, the sun was shining and it was warm over considerable part of the State the last two days of this period. Many farmers are behind with their planting. Clover stand is very good, and blossoms are appearing. White Dutch clover is in bloom and in some sections is the only carryover source available. Bees have bred up well, and although some are short of stores, most colonies which had normal care are in very good condition. No sales of either honey or beeswax were reported during the past two weeks.

Wisconsin. Cool, cloudy weather prevailed during the past two weeks. Alsike and white Dutch clovers are abundant, and white clover which looks very good is beginning to bloom generally. The flow from fruit blossoms and dandelions was limited principally account of the bad weather which prevented bee activity. Bees are not up to their usual strength for the time of year. Feeding has been necessary until very recently. Nosema is reported to be retarding gains in some sections. Package bees are arriving now and being introduced. Some sales of White Clover extracted are reported at 15-17¢ per lb. direct to consumers.

Minnesota. Heavy to excessive rains have prevailed over much of this State. Bees are averaging only about one day in seven when they can work. Heavy feeding is still necessary in some parts of the State. Clover and mustard are beginning to bloom now which will provide the bees a living, but until weather improves there will be little surplus. Most colonies are not up to normal for this time of year. No swarming to date and many colonies are lacking in numbers. Where package bees have been received, the colonies are making satisfactory gains.

Ohio. Weather conditions have improved considerably during the latter part of this period. About four days of dry, clear weather allowed the bees to fly and where they are strong enough, some honey was gathered from white and yellow sweetclover, locust, and poplar blossoms. Beekeepers report feeding has been necessary later in the season than any year they can recall. Reports of losses continue to come in, some estimates running as high as 50 percent. Little swarming is reported as yet. The main honey flow from the clovers will be starting shortly, but in many instances bees will not be ready for it and will require some time to build up after it starts. Some beekeepers state that they will be satisfied to get the weaker colonies built up for next winter. Inquiries for honey are coming in from the retail trade as well as from bottlers. The latter are anxious to contract for all the 1943 output.

Indiana. Temperatures have been favorable with adequate rains. Clovers and pastures are coming on very well. So far bees have had very little opportunity to build up, and still require feeding in many locations. Some alsike and white Dutch clovers are blooming and bees should benefit greatly from these sources. A few 1-lb. glass jars of Amber extracted honey sold at 22½¢ per jar. Many inquiries for the new crop are being received by the beekeepers from bottlers, packers and consumers. Many consumers orders are already booked.

Illinois. Favorable temperatures have prevailed over this area. During the first week of the period there was considerable sunshine, but during the second week frequent rains were reported. Bees are being fed in most yards. Reports of losses from starvation still coming in are unusually high. White, red and yellow sweet clovers are starting to bloom. Where the bees are strong enough they should soon be getting some surplus, and the others will be able to build up on the early flow. A colony loss in weight of 60-70 pounds for the period November - June is reported by one producer. A few sales of bulk honey were reported at 15¢ per lb. direct to consumers. Offers for beeswax are reported of 41¢ per lb. in cash and 43¢ per lb. in trade.

Kentucky. Heavy rains have occurred frequently during this period. Temperatures have been favorable for the growing crops. Condition of honey plants is excellent. Both yellow and white sweetclover are blooming. Bees are in good condition; colonies are strong and have plenty of brood. Swarming is light. The bees are getting considerable surplus from clovers.

NORTHEASTERN STATES: (Period May 27-June 12)

New York. Weather has been warmer with moderate to heavy rains over most of the State except in the extreme northern part. The clovers and other nectar producing plants are in excellent condition. Alsike, yellow, sweet and white Dutch clovers are beginning to bloom, but it will be about two weeks before the main clover flow will start. Raspberry and locust are also beginning to bloom. If bees are in fair condition and the weather permits they may be able to make a living until the main flow begins. However, feeding will be necessary in most yards to carry the bees through to that time. Queens and package bees are being received but they are much later than they were expected. No sales of honey were reported during this period but orders for new crop honey are being received for when it is available. Some sales of beeswax were reported at the ceiling price, 41½¢ per lb. for both Light Yellow and Dark.

Vermont. Cool and rainy weather has prevailed in this State. A few blossoms are beginning to show on clover and vetch. Dandelion did not yield very well. Estimated winter losses vary greatly, bee yards located only two miles apart report heavy losses and very light losses. In the Champlain Valley there has been generally heavy losses. Bees are building up slowly, some are short of stores.

New Jersey. After a week of rather cloudy weather with moderate temperatures and considerable rain, high temperatures with plenty of sunshine with a few showers have prevailed in this area. This was good growing weather and all crops improved. The clover looks exceptionally promising. Bees are working on alsike and yellow sweet clover and are building up rapidly. Most of the yield from tulip poplar was used up for broodrearing.

Pennsylvania. Spring has been backward but during the week just closed warm, dry weather is reported. Clover is in good condition. Bees are developing rapidly where they have sufficient food. A few early swarms are reported.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period May 27-June 12)

Maryland. Warm weather has stimulated growth in most of this State. Clovers, especially in the western part of the State are in good condition. The honey flow from the tulip poplar is over but bees did not have enough suitable days to work on it to get a good supply. Bees are doing very well now on chestnuts and chinquapin, and clovers are yielding well whenever weather permits bee activity. Considerable swarming is reported. Scale hives have registered a gain of 4-8 pounds per day from clover when weather was favorable.

West Virginia. Weather conditions in this area have improved. White clover is in excellent condition and is furnishing a fine flow of honey.

Virginia. Rains has interfered somewhat with bee activity. Yellow sweetclover is reported in full bloom in some sections, but on account of frequent or continuous rain bees were not getting much nectar from that source. The flow from tulip poplar and basswood is over and some producers report a surplus of 40 pounds per colony from these sources. The broodnests are well filled especially where bees had a good opportunity to work on tulip and other blossoms. Although sourwood may be later than usual, prospects for a flow from that source are promising.

South Carolina. Favorable temperatures with adequate rainfall are reported for this area. Bees are now working on honeydew. The main spring flow is over and very little surplus was obtained. It is doubtful if the weak colonies got enough to carry them thru to next year's flow. Sourwood in the mountainous sections should be ready in about two weeks.

SOUTHEASTERN STATES: (Period May 26-June 10)

Georgia. During the first part of this period too much rain was reported, for the second part high temperatures were recorded with no rain. Soil is drying out rapidly. Bees are in fair condition. Pollen is plentiful and broodrearing is progressing satisfactorily. Mexican clover is coming on now especially in the farming areas. The main honey flow is over and crop is estimated at about 50-60 percent of normal. Beekeepers are busy extracting and packing their honey. Buyers are anxious for honey but little has been sold so far. A large lot of bulk comb honey sold at 17¢ per lb. and extracted Mixed Flavors in 60s sold at 12¢ per lb.

Florida. Warm weather with some rain prevailed in this area. The honey flow from palmetto is completed. The yield apparently varied greatly in different parts of the State, some producers report a good yield while others report one-third to one-half of a usual crop. Beekeepers are busy extracting their crops. Cotton is beginning to bloom. Bees are working on mangrove at present. Demand for package bees continued unusually late; all shipments should be completed about June 15. Sales of ten lots of Mixed Flowers, Amber, were reported at 12¢ per lb., and a large lot of honey in 1 and 5-lb. jars at 16¢ per lb., Light Amber Orange in 1 and 5-lb. jars reported sold at 15¢ per lb.

Alabama. Very warm days are reported for this State during the entire period. Rain is badly needed in some sections, and scattered showers have fallen in others. Bees in the level areas are making good gains from the clovers, which are in full bloom. Scattered demand for packaged bees continues. New crop honey is on the market and is selling at ceiling or near ceiling prices. A little honey in 10-lb. pails sold at \$1.80 per pail.

Louisiana. Hot, dry weather has prevailed during practically all of this period. During the day bees are observed clustered around the hives but are gathering nectar mornings and late afternoons from blue vervain and pollen from corn. Most yards have already extracted 2-4 supers per hive, and some of the better colonies have yielded 125-160 lbs. of surplus this season; The package season is about over with only a few late orders to be shipped. Orders for queens are still coming in. Those colonies from which bees were taken will require considerable time to build up after being disturbed frequently. Scale colonies are showing a gain of 1-3 pounds per day. Honey is moving as soon as harvested, most prices are said to be below ceiling levels as many local producers are serving their regular trade.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the middle of June. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: Arrivals: extracted 10 bbls. Fla.

COMB: No supplies on market.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand good, market strong, but supplies insufficient to quote.

CHICAGO: Receipts: l.c.l. 1,700 lbs. Minn.; by truck 704 lbs. Ill., 500 lbs. Minn., 800 lbs. Wis. Practically no supplies on market. No sales reported.

BEESWAX: Dealers paying for occasional available lot 41½¢-43½¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

CLEVELAND: No supplies on market. No sales reported.

DENVER: No honey receipts reported. Offerings light. Demand good, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers and direct to large retailers - COLORADO, White to Water White, Sweetclover-Alfalfa, cases, 12, 2-lb. glass jars \$4.50-4.70; 12, 2½-lb. glass jars \$6.30-6.90; 12, 24-oz. glass jars \$3.35-3.65; 24, 1-lb. glass jars \$4.70-5.00.

BEESWAX: Receipts approximately 800 lbs. Demand good, market steady. Dealers offering domestic crude 41½¢ per lb.

DETROIT: Receipts: extracted 25,500 lbs. Wis., 1200 lbs. Ohio, 6,000 lbs. Ala. Demand exceeds supply, market firm at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: Sales by bottlers to chain stores and jobbers delivered - WISCONSIN, White Clover 12, 1-lb. jars \$2.59; 12-8-oz. jars \$1.42. OHIO, White Clover, 12, 2-lb. jars \$4.81.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by rail 66,544 lbs. origin not specified.

EXTRACTED: Supplies moderate. Demand very good, market firm at ceiling prices. Sales to wholesale grocers - MINNESOTA, Sweetclover, U. S. No. 1, blended honey 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.27; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.57. Sales to retail grocers - MINNESOTA, Sweetclover, 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.59; 24, 17-oz. jars \$5.75; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.93.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: by rail 349,256 lbs. origin not specified; 7,573 lbs. Fla.

Demand good; market unsettled. Practically no trading.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers, bakers and manufacturers - FLORIDA, Tupelo 5-lb. cans 85¢. Trading on imported honey awaiting price amendment.

BEESWAX: Origin not specified 21,628 lbs. arrived. Supplies very light. Sales by receivers - basis port of entry - SOUTH AMERICA, WEST INDIES and CUBA, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢; non-sun-bleachable 41 1/2¢.

PHILADELPHIA: No arrivals. Dealers unable to get supplies. No offerings. No prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck extracted 900 lbs. bottled Midwestern. Nothing offered. No sales.

PORTLAND: Arrivals: extracted 1 car from Texas and 100 barrels origin not specified. Supplies very light. Demand exceeds supply, market firm. Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots -

EXTRACTED: IDAHO, Sweetclover-Alfalfa and Texas, Mixed Flowers 12, 5-lb. jars \$11.96-12.52; 12, 2 1/2-lb. jars and cans \$6.60.

COMB: No supplies.

BEESWAX: Demand good, few purchases made at ceiling prices of 41 1/2¢ per lb.

ST. LOUIS: No offerings or trading reported.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND and ALAMEDA: Receipts via truck: Central California - 2,383 cases White to Extra White Orange, 330 cases White to Water White Sage, 220 cases Light Amber to White Buckwheat, 142 cases Amber to Light Amber Mixed Flowers; beeswax 400 lbs. yellow wax; Northern California - No receipts.

EXTRACTED: Bottlers using for the most part 1, 2, and 3-pound glass containers and very few 5-pound jars and tins and all report using new ceiling prices.

BEESWAX: Demand good but practically no offerings. Beekeepers receiving 41 1/2¢ for Yellow wax delivered Bay cities.

SEATTLE: No receipts reported. Supplies extremely light. Demand very good, market firm.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots- WASH. & IDAHO, Alfalfa-Sweetclover, Light Amber 24, 1-lb. cans \$6.52; 12, 20-oz. jars \$3.12-3.80; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.56-2.93; 12, 11-oz. jars \$1.85-2.15; creamed honey 24, 14-oz. cups \$5.75-6.50; 24, 40-oz. cups \$13.86.

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Following is a press release recently prepared by the U. S. Department of Agriculture for radio distribution:

BEESWAX SALVAGE PROGRAM

A new salvage job on the farm! Collect beeswax

NEED WAX FOR WAR MATERIALS

The war has greatly increased the need for wax. Beeswax is used in coatings to protect and lubricate shells.....in protective coatings for fighting planes....in models employed in designing 'planes.....in ointments for the Army and Navy in dental work for soldiers and sailors.....and innumerable other war products.

With imports limited by shipping troubles, we have to depend more on wax from domestic beekeepers.

LOTS OF WAX GOING TO WASTE

Our specialists estimate that beekeepers could readily round up an extra million pounds of beeswax -- or about the estimated amount used in materials and equipment our Army and Navy require in a year's time.

The important ways to get more wax include:

-----From beekeepers who do not ordinarily save wax -- probably one in five.

-----Culling combs: As general goal, cull poorest comb in each 10.

-----Save scraps: Even beekeepers who save and sell wax find they can produce considerably more by carrying basket to collect odd scraps.

-----Kill Wax Moth: Moth is biggest single cause of wax losses. Fumigate combs after the honey season -- inspect supers every 2 or 3 weeks during summer.

-----Ex-Beekeepers: Those who abandoned bees before or since war started have combs, wax lying around.

The ceiling prices on beeswax offer a good inducement to save wax:

Cash price --- 41 1/2 ¢ lb.

In trade --- 43 1/2 ¢ lb.

WHERE AND HOW TO SEND WAX

Ask beekeepers to sell their wax to dealers from whom they get their bee-keeping supplies -- or to other buyers. There are upwards of 300 such dealers well distributed over the country.

Small beekeepers might pool their old combs and scrap wax. Often it pays even large beekeepers to send unmelted combs and scraps to commercial concerns, rather than to melt down in home outfits.

SALVAGE COMMITTEES TO HELP

WPB is calling need for beeswax to attention of the 13,000 local salvage committees. In their regular salvage round-ups, these committees will urge all beekeepers to turn in beeswax scrap and poor combs -- even in small quantities.

JOB FOR 4-H'ers

Collecting beeswax is a patriotic job for 4-H Clubs and other youth groups.

:	:
:	:
:	You can get information about methods of
:	saving beeswax from State men. In some
:	States, it's the Extension entomologist
:	or bee specialist -- in some States, the
:	State apiarist. Officers of beekeepers'
:	associations also may help. In any event
:	Agricultural Extension Service can tell
:	you who's who in State beekeeping.
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Note:

This is the first release on beeswax salvage. Other stories will be mailed to you from time to time. This information is being provided you to assist you in supporting the salvage program.

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TITLE 32 -- NATIONAL DEFENSE
CHAPTER XI -- OFFICE OF PRICE ADMINISTRATION
PART 1351 -- FOOD AND FOOD PRODUCTS
/MPR 275 1/ -- AMENDMENT NO. 5/
EXTRACTED HONEY

A statement of the considerations involved in the issuance of this amendment, issued simultaneously herewith, has been filed with the Division of the Federal Register.

Maximum Price Regulation 275 is amended in the following respects:

1. Section 1351.1302 is amended to read as follows:

Section 1351.1302. Exempt Sales (a) The provisions of this regulation shall not be applicable to the following transactions:

(1) Purchases of "bulk honey" from foreign shippers by persons purchasing for resale. Persons, however, who import "bulk honey" for their own use shall not purchase such honey at prices higher than those set forth in Section 1351.1319 (b)(4).

(2) Sales of "packaged honey" by "wholesalers" and by "retailers". Wholesalers and retailers determine their maximum prices on "packaged honey" under Revised Maximum Price Regulations 237 and 238, respectively.

2. Section 1351.1302a is added to read as follows:

Section 1351.1302a Transactions covered by this regulation. The regulation covers but is not limited to the following transactions:

(a) Producer sales of "bulk honey" other than at retail (covered by Section 1351.1319 (b)(1)).

(b) Producer sales of "bulk honey" at retail (covered by Section 1351.1319 (b)(2)).

(c) Dealer sales of domestic "bulk honey" (covered by Section 1351.1319 (b)(3)).

(d) Dealer sales of imported "bulk honey" (covered by Section 1351.1319 (b)(4)).

(e) "Packaged honey" sales by persons other than "wholesalers" and "retailers" (covered by Section 1351.1319 (c) (1) and Section 1351.1319 (h)).

3. Section 1351.1313 is amended to read as follows:

Section 1351.1313 - Records and Reports. (a) Every person who sells "packaged honey" covered by this regulation shall (1) preserve for examination by the Office of Price Administration, for so long as the Emergency Price Control Act of 1942, as amended, remains in effect, all his existing records which were the basis for the computations required by Section 1351.1319, (2) Within ten days after determining his maximum prices for each kind, flavor, brand and container type and size of "packaged honey", execute and file with the Office of Price Administration, Washington, D. C., two copies of Forms Nos. 1-A, 1-B, 1-C, which forms are obtainable at any district, state, field or regional office of the Office of Price Administration. (b) Sellers of "packaged honey" electing to price their items under Section 1351.1319 (c) (1) must have Forms 1-A, 1-B, and 1-C on file with the Office of Price Administration, Washington, D. C. not later than July 15, 1943. Sellers who have not filed by that date must price their "packaged honey" under Section 1351.1319 (h) and cannot avail themselves of the formula set forth in Section 1351.1319 (c) (1).

4. Subparagraphs (2) and (3) of Section 1351.1317 (a) are amended to read as follows:

(2) "Wholesaler" means any person who buys "packaged honey" and resells it to persons other than household consumers. The term includes chain store warehouses.

(3) "Retailer" means any person who buys "packaged honey" and resells it to household consumers.

5. New subparagraph (5) is added to Section 1351.1319 (a) to read as follows:

(5) "Producer's local shipping point" means the point in the producing area to which the producer customarily brought his honey for receipt by or shipment to a purchaser. It does not mean the producer's apiary unless the apiary was such point ^{2/} prior to December 3, 1942.

6. Section 1351.1319 (b) is amended to read as follows:

(b) Maximum prices for "bulk honey".

(1) Producer sales. The maximum price, f.o.b. "producer's local shipping point" for bulk honey which is United States Grade B ^{3/} or better, when sold by the producer thereof in containers, shall be 12¢ per pound: Provided, that where the purchaser furnishes, exchanges, or returns a container the price shall be 11½¢ per pound, and the cost if any, of transporting the container back to the producer shall be paid by the purchaser. In order to receive the prices established by this subparagraph (1) the producer must furnish the case or shipping carton where such is necessary for the protection of the container while in transit. If the purchaser furnishes the shipping case or carton the prices herein established must be reduced to the extent of the value of such shipping case or carton.

(i) If the honey grades less than United States Grade B ^{4/} the producer's maximum price as established above shall be reduced to the extent of the customary differentials existing during the "base period."

(2) Producer sales of "bulk honey" at retail. The maximum price for "bulk honey" when sold by the producer to a household consumer shall be 15¢ per pound, f.o.b. "producer's local shipping point."

(3) Dealers ^{5/} sales of domestic "bulk honey". The maximum price for domestic "bulk honey" when sold by a person other than the producer thereof shall be as follows:

Dealer Prices for Domestic "Bulk Honey" (f.o.b. dealers shipping point)

Quantity on Sale :	Unprocessed :	Processed ^{6/}
20,000 lbs. or over :	12.5¢ per lb. :	13.5¢ per lb.
Less than 20,000 lbs. :	:	:
but not less than :	:	:
1,500 lbs. :	13.5¢ per lb. :	14.5¢ per lb.
Less than 1,500 lbs. :	14.5¢ per lb. :	15.5¢ per lb.

^{2/} Since the producer's price is set at the "producer's local shipping point", a producer cannot charge for hauling to the local shipping point.

^{3/} Extracted Honey is "United States Grade B" if it meets the standards for "United States Grade B" as set forth in the circular "United States Standards for Grades of Extracted Honey (effective March 15, 1943)" issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Honey which met these standards was formerly designated in the regulation as U. S. No. 1.

^{4/} Supra

^{5/} A person is considered a dealer with respect to all "bulk honey" which he buys and resells. Thus as regards resales of "bulk honey" the term would include such persons as carlot shippers, jobbers, importers, persons selling for the account of foreign shippers, wholesale grocery companies, bakery and confectionery supply houses and all other persons who buy and resell.

^{6/} Honey is considered "processed" if it has been subjected to a straining or filtering process, other than the simple primary straining customarily done by the producer, so that it meets the standard for United States Fancy Extracted Honey as outlined in the circular "United States Standards for Grades of Extracted Honey (effective March 15, 1943)" issued by U. S. Department of Agriculture.

(i) To the above table of prices the dealer may add the following:

(a) One-half cent per pound, in instances where he sells the honey in a container, without such container being returned or another one being received in exchange.

(b) The actual freight charges incurred on the honey from the "producers' local shipping points" to the point from which the dealer sells f.o.b.; Provided, that the dealer separately states such charges on the invoice accompanying the sale, and lists the "producers' local shipping points" from which such honey was originally obtained.

(4) Dealer ^{7/} Sales of imported "bulk honey".

The maximum prices for imported "bulk honey" in barrels f.o.b. point or port of entry, shall be as follows: ^{8/}

Dealer Prices for Imported "Bulk Honey" (f.o.b. point or port of entry)

Quantity of Sale :	Unprocessed :	Processed ^{9/}
20,000 lbs. or over :	11.5¢ per lb. :	13¢ per lb.
Less than 20,000 lbs. :	:	:
but not less than :	:	:
1,500 lbs. :	12.5¢ per lb. :	14¢ per lb.
Less than 1,500 lbs. :	13.5¢ per lb. :	15¢ per lb.

(i) Where the imported "bulk honey" is sold f.o.b. a point other than the point or port of entry, the actual freight charges incurred from the point or port of entry to such other point, may be added to the above prices: Provided, that the dealer separately states such freight charges on the invoice accompanying the sale and lists the point or port of entry at which such honey entered the country.

(ii) Where the honey is sold in a retail container, without such container being returned or another one exchanged therefor, the dealer may add $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per pound to the above prices.

(iii) "Bulk Honey" which is composed partly of imported honey and partly of domestic honey shall for purposes of this regulation be considered imported "bulk honey" and the prices for such honey shall be those set forth in this subparagraph.

7. Section 3151.1319 (c) is hereby revoked.

8. Section 1351.1319 (f) is amended to read as follows:

(f) Delivered prices. (1) Any seller of "packaged honey" covered by this regulation who sold and delivered "packaged honey" during the year 1941 on an established prepaid freight, freight allowed, or delivered price basis may add to the f.o.b. prices on "packaged honey" established by this regulation the average freight factor which he added to his f.o.b. packing plant price during the year 1941. The resulting price shall be the seller's maximum delivered price for such packaged honey for the area in which such average freight factor applied in 1941.

(2) Every seller of packaged honey who avails himself of the provisions of subparagraph (1) above must file with the Office of Price Administration not later than July 15, 1943, a statement showing the average freight factors used during 1941, the areas to which such freight factors applied; the f.o.b. packing plant prices during 1941, the average delivered prices for 1941, and their maximum delivered prices as computed under this regulation. Failure to file this information by July 15, 1943, precludes the seller from availing himself of the provisions of this paragraph (f).

(3) Sellers of "packaged honey" who did not handle "packaged honey" during 1941 but did handle other food commodities, all or most of which were sold on a prepaid freight, freight allowed, or delivered price basis may apply to the Office of Price Administration for specific authorization of maximum delivered prices. Such application shall set forth the sellers maximum f.o.b. prices as computed under this regulation, the freight factors which the seller added to his f.o.b. prices during 1941 on the item most comparable to packaged honey, and the areas to which such freight factors applied.

9. The heading "prices on sales directly to domestic users" appearing in the last column of the table set forth in Section 1351.1319 (h) is amended to read "prices on sales directly to household consumers". This amendment shall become effective June 23, 1943. (Pub. Laws 421 and 729, 77th Cong.; E.O. 9250, 7 F.R. 7871. E.O. 9328, 8 F.R. 4681.)

Issued this 17 day of June, 1943.

Note: The reporting and record-keeping requirements of this amendment have been approved by the Bureau of the Budget in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Reports Act of 1942.

^{7/} See footnote 5/

^{8/} The prices set forth in subparagraph (4) are dealer selling prices. The price which he can pay a foreign shipper is not subject to price control.

^{9/} See footnote 6/

APPROVED

Chester C. Davis
War Food Administrator.

George J. Burke
Acting Administrator

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Food Distribution Administration

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4142,
Branch 2176.

Washington, D. C.
July 1, 1943.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - NO. 603

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

SUMMARY

During most of this period temperatures throughout the Plains Area and eastward were somewhat above normal, while temperatures in the Intermountain and Pacific Coast States averaged below normal. Through the Plains, North Central and Northeast Sections bees had their first opportunity to build up any appreciable surplus. Through the sweetclover and white clover areas bloom was prolific during most of this period and temperatures permitted bees to work a good share of the time. Those colonies that were in strong condition were able to make considerable surplus honey. On the other hand, many colonies which came through the winter in poor condition and also many package colonies have not built up sufficiently to take full advantage of this flow. Most of these colonies have by now built up to surplus-storing strength, however. In many of the northern States beekeepers have been unable to replace all colonies which were lost during the past winter and in some sections the number of producing colonies is below that of a year ago. In the Intermountain Region, with the exception of Colorado, conditions were very unfavorable during most of this period due largely to cool temperatures and wind. In some of these States beekeepers found it necessary to feed bees through the middle of June and up to the end of June few colonies were making much more than a living. In the Southwest and Pacific Coast areas yields have in most cases been only fair, although some individual beekeepers report very good yields to date. The sage flow in California has been spotted - in some local areas almost a failure, others showing a fairly good surplus.

Labor in many sections is still restricting bee yard operations and slowing up extracting. With the relatively high wages being paid in war industry, beekeepers are finding it increasingly difficult to hold skilled labor.

Very little honey moved to market except on a local basis during this period. Apparently 1942 crop honey is completely out of the producers' hands and has been almost entirely used up. Such new crop as has been extracted in California and the Southern States has moved out readily, mostly at ceiling prices regardless of flavor or color, although occasional sales have been made above and below ceilings. Producers and buyers should bear in mind that the ceiling prices set up under Maximum Price Regulation No. 275 and its five amendments are still in effect. Any person buying or selling honey at prices above these maximums is in violation of the regulation and making himself liable to the penalties set up by the regulation. Copies of the original MPR 275 and the various amendments have been furnished to those on our mailing lists. Any one wishing additional copies should request them from the Office of Price Administration, either locally or from Washington, D. C.

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period June 7-23)

Southern California. Temperatures over much of Southern California during the latter part of June ranged from normal to slightly above normal. Fogs and cool mornings along the coast prevented bees from working long days. In the interior valley sections bees from strong colonies are storing honey from sage, buckwheat, deerweed, alfalfa, and mustard. Sage and buckwheat have not yielded much in the San Diego area but have given better returns in the interior section. Cool, drying winds have cut down the flow from buckwheat which is about over at the lower elevations, but it is still producing at higher levels. Some areas have been overstocked. Colonies are generally in good condition. The quality of practically all flavors of honey so far extracted - Orange, Sage, Sage-Buckwheat, and Mixed Flower - has been good with a heavy body. The honey market continues active at ceiling prices of \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds, f.o.b. country points, for all flavors and grades of honey which are now available for delivery. Delivered Bay Cities via truck ton lots or more - White to Extra White Sage 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. Limited quantities of beeswax moved during the past two weeks at the ceiling price of 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash, and 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. country points.

Imperial Valley. The usual hot dry summer weather prevails. Bees have been building up considerable surplus from Alfalfa and are obtaining some nectar from melons. Tamarisk trees have started to bloom, about two weeks earlier than normal. The flow so far has run about the same as last year.

Central California. Temperatures averaged above normal during the first part of this period and slightly below normal in the latter. Plant conditions are generally good and colonies are in fair to good condition to work available sources of nectar. Alfalfa, wild buckwheat, spikeweed, yerba santa and eucalyptus are now producing. The sage flow has in many cases fallen short of earlier expectations. Lack of competent labor and equipment necessary to move colonies to new locations has been a factor in reduction of quantities stored. Labor shortage is also hampering some producers in their extracting operations. Demand for honey of all kinds by brokers and bottlers continues active at ceiling prices. Sales by producers ton lots or more, extracted, per lb., delivered Bay Cities - White to Extra White Orange, White to Water White Sage, White Alfalfa, Light Amber Buckwheat, and White Spikeweed 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Light Amber Eucalyptus 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ -12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; delivered Interior Valley Points - White to Extra White Orange 12-12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Extra White Sage 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Mixed Flowers 12¢.

Northern California. Over most of Northern California moisture conditions have been favorable and honey plants appear normal or above normal. However, in the heart of the Sacramento Valley drying winds have caused some injury to star thistle and other honey plants. Honey yield is below normal due to considerable cool, windy weather. Bees have been working alfalfa, buckeye, coffee berry, various vegetable seed plants, and wild flowers. Many colonies are being moved to yellow star thistle and bean locations. Offerings of honey were light in this section. Sales per lb., extracted, delivered Interior Valley Points, ton lots or more - Extra Light Amber Star Thistle old crop 12¢; Extra Light Amber to White Manzanita, new crop 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ -12¢; Light Amber Mixed Flowers new crop 11-11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period June 7-23)

West of Cascades. In the Willanette Valley temperatures have continued below normal with considerable rain except during the closing days of the period when sunshine and clearing skies improved conditions for bee activity. Nectar is being gathered in this section from vetches, clovers, buckbrush, and bachelor button. Colony yields have been extremely spotted, some beekeepers report yields of 20 pounds or less to date, while other beekeepers report yields from individual colonies running as high as 120 pounds. Fireweed is beginning to bloom in the lower altitudes. Over most of the area fireweed now looks favorable. Some bees are being moved to these areas. Cool, cloudy weather has caused one of the heaviest swarmings in years. In southern Oregon bees are working on clover and alfalfa. An exceptional manzanita yield was reported in this section.

East of Cascades. The weather in this section has been rather cool and backward, although higher temperatures the last few days have increased bee activity. The pea season was at its peak during this period and cane berries provided good pasturage. In the alfalfa sections colonies have made fairly good increases from alfalfa and yellow sweetclover. Sweetclover seems to be more abundant along the roadsides than in past years. Most colonies are in fairly good condition and prospects now appear favorable.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period June 8-24)

Conditions over the Intermountain area, with the exception of Colorado, were unfavorable during this period. Weather was abnormally cool with fairly high winds which have prevented bees from working much of the time. Moisture conditions are generally favorable and plant growth luxurious, but the blooming season in all States except Colorado has been somewhat delayed. Feeding was necessary somewhat later than normally, and despite heavy feeding many colonies are still rather weak. To date little surplus has been made in any State excepting Colorado. Little, if any, honey is available in this section and no f.o.b. sales were reported during this period. Buyers are actively trying to contract the 1943 crop, but most producers are inclined to hold off. Details by States follow:

Colorado. Most of this period was characterized by warm, dry weather. On the Western Slope yellow sweetclover and alfalfa have been producing, and white sweetclover is beginning to bloom. Tamarisk is also producing some pollen and a little nectar in this section. In the eastern sections of the State alfalfa and sweetclover have yielded fairly well, although in most areas the flow from alfalfa has declined since the first cutting of alfalfa hay has been fairly well completed. In most sections it was necessary to feed some until early June, but nearly all colonies have built up well and are now in normal condition. On the Western Slope swarming has been reported a little worse than normal.

Wyoming. The weather over most of Wyoming was unfavorable for bee activity during this period. Moisture has been plentiful and plant growth luxuriant but much of the period was too cool and windy for bees to gather large quantities of nectar. Feeding was necessary until early June and many colonies are still weak.

Montana. Feeding was necessary in many yards until around the middle of June, when the first colony gains were made. Clover prospects now appear good, with plentiful supplies of irrigation water.

- continued -

Idaho. General conditions over most of Idaho are not too favorable at this time. Feeding was necessary until mid-June. Cool stormy weather has prevented bees from flying much of the time. Little honey was gained from dandelion and fruit bloom. Sufficient nectar is now being gathered from willow and yellow sweet clover so that feeding should be unnecessary. Alfalfa is beginning to bloom, but is rapidly being cut for hay. Weevil infestation is heavy. Sweetclover is scarce in most sections.

Utah. Cool weather and heavy winds during much of this period retarded bee activity, although toward the end of the period conditions were more favorable. Few sources of nectar are available and bees are not in as good condition generally speaking as they were a month or two earlier.

Nevada. Nevada has had one of the most backward springs on record. Cool, windy weather has been prevalent over most of the State and not until toward the end of the period were bees able to make a living. Some beekeepers are still feeding.

ARIZONA: (Period June 8-24)

Extracting of Mesquite honey is actively underway in southern Arizona and yields have been fairly heavy. Considerable alfalfa honey is being gathered both in the irrigated valleys and along the banks of the Colorado River. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted Mesquite ton lots to carlots 12¢, single 60s few 13¢.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period June 10-25)

Southeast Texas. In some portions of southeast Texas mesquite and cotton are producing well. In other sections bees are making little more than a living, mostly from honeydew/willow and other trees. The weather continues very dry and many late blooming plants are about burned out. One beekeeper reports an average of about 45 pounds per colony of Cotton-Mesquite being extracted, which brings the average surplus yield for his yards up to 75 pounds for the season so far.

Northwest Texas. There has been sufficient rain in this section recently to put plants in fairly good condition. Horsermint is producing well and some honey is still being gathered from mesquite. It looks like there will be a very good June honey crop in most locations. Cotton is beginning to yield. Cotton poisoning is again becoming a problem. It is now expensive and difficult because of limited gasoline rations to move large quantities of bees from the cotton areas. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted Huajillo-Catsclaw, case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 16.9¢, and 1-lb. glass jars 24¢; bulk comb Huajillo-Catsclaw in small pails 17¢ per lb. Beeswax average yellow 40¢ per lb., f.o.b.

West Texas. Except for small local areas there has been sufficient moisture for most honey plants. Bees that did not starve or freeze out in February and March are doing well on mesquite, which is now in full bloom.

New Mexico. The Mesilla Valley season so far has been one of the poorest in a number of years. Bees have stored a little honey, but second crop alfalfa has produced but little until the last few days. Intense heat has prevailed but there have been a few scattered showers over the Valley recently. In the middle Rio Grande Valley the grasshopper menace appears to have passed with little harm. In northern New Mexico grasshopper infestation is bad in some sections. Dry weather in northern New Mexico is damaging honey plants. In the Pecos Valley a good flow is on and prospects are now favorable for a large crop.

Oklahoma. A good nectar flow is reported from most sections - in the northcentral and southwest from white sweet clover and alfalfa and in the eastern portion of the State largely from white sweet clover. Colonies that came through the spring in good condition are storing five to ten pounds daily, while weak colonies are building up rapidly.

Arkansas. During the last three weeks the weather has been dry over much of Arkansas. The flow from both clover and vetch has been rather light. Some package bees are still being shipped and demand for queens continues quite active. Package producing colonies are building up and taken as a whole the condition of all colonies is good.

PLAINS AREA: (Period June 10-25)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. Most of this period was abnormally wet. The dandelion flow is over. Mustard and Dutch white clover are in full bloom, but sweet clover is about 10 days to two weeks late in blooming. White clover is producing much more heavily than normally. The clover acreage as a whole has been reduced and considerable concern is being expressed over the damage being done to sweet clover by clover weevil. Many colonies are in very poor condition and are building up slowly. While it is still early to make many predictions it seems these factors may combine to produce a lighter than normal crop unless unusually favorable conditions should prevail during the latter part of the season. Buyers are actively trying to contract this season's crop.

Iowa. The main clover flow began around the middle of the month and in most sections of the State considerable surplus has been built up during this period. White clover has yielded unusually well. While both yellow and white sweet clover are now in bloom, the acreage of sweet clover seems to be somewhat reduced. Considerable swarming has been reported especially in those yards where supers have not been added.

Kansas. Adequate moisture has put honey plants in good condition. Some bees that wintered well and were in strong condition this spring have made about 100 pounds of honey to date. Those colonies that were not well cared for are just beginning to produce a surplus. While some swarming has been reported to date it has not been excessive. Present prospects are for a good crop.

Nebraska. The flow to date has been quite disappointing in most sections of Nebraska. In the eastern portion of the State yellow sweet clover is a little past its peak, white sweet clover has started blooming, and white clover is in full bloom. In the western and central portions of the State there is quite a moisture deficiency so the flow has been light. Cool weather until the middle of June prevented bees from making anything more than a living.

Missouri. Over most of Missouri the weather was quite favorable during this period, with sufficient rain to keep the clover crop in good condition. In the Southwest section floods were still serious toward the end of the period. White clover is blooming profusely and yielding well. White sweet clover is also in bloom and giving a fair yield. Scale colonies are showing gains of two to five pounds per day, averaging around three pounds.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period June 10-25)

Michigan. On the Northern Peninsula the spring was so late, wet, and cold that bees have not built up normally. Considerable late feeding was necessary and very little food was obtained from early spring flowers. In this section clover is just beginning to show good growth. On the Southern Peninsula the spring was wet and cold until mid June. Except in the best kept yards colonies have built up slowly. Little honey or pollen were gathered from dandelion and fruit bloom, due to prevailing weather at that time. The weather warmed up around the middle of June and bees have been active on the early clover bloom. Some beekeepers report little if any surplus to date, while others report a surplus of good quality clover honey running as high as 40 to 50 pounds per colony. The clover crops look unusually promising at this time, due to the early excessive moisture. Apparently more clover will be available than was earlier anticipated because of the fact that farmers were prevented by the weather from turning under some acreage they had expected to. So far alfalfa does not look too promising, due to the excessive moisture. There is already considerable competition among buyers for new crop honey when available. Only a few sales were reported with Clover capping melter honey in single 60s at 11¢ per lb., f.o.b. Several lots of beeswax moved at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash, and 43½¢ per lb. in trade.

Wisconsin. A good honey flow is now on from white, alsike, and yellow sweet clovers. White sweet clover is just beginning to bloom. Condition of the clover crop is unusually good. Many weak or late package colonies have not built up sufficiently to take full advantage of this early flow. On the other hand, some beekeepers whose colonies were strong report production to date of Clover honey as high as 100 pounds per colony. Basswood is not heavily budded in most sections. A few sales of Clover honey in single 60s to ten lots were reported at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb. f.o.b., with a few small lot sales direct to consumers by beekeepers in assorted small containers at 15-17¢ per lb.

Minnesota. Dry, clear weather during most of this period has enabled bees to work very actively on various clovers. White clover looks the best in a number of years. There seems to be some shortage of white sweet clover and growth of both white and yellow sweet clover is not as profuse along roadsides and fence rows as normally. Many colonies have not built up sufficiently to take full advantage of the early clover flow, but practically all colonies are now making some surplus with many storing a better than normal surplus. Considerable supersedure and swarming have been reported. Most swarms, however, are quite small. Much requeening has been necessary, and many beekeepers have had to watch their hives very closely because of weak or dead queens. Some bees have been moved to the basswood sections which now look like they may produce favorably. No f.o.b. sales were reported but buyers are active trying to contract this season's crop at ceiling prices.

Ohio. Clear weather with considerable high temperatures made it possible for strong colonies to take full advantage of the clover flow during this period. Alsike and yellow sweet clover have produced well in all sections. In most sections white clover has yielded fairly well, but in others yields from this source have been rather disappointing. Toward the end of the period the ground was becoming quite dry in some sections and the white clover yield was declining. Many colonies were weak and needed the early flow to build up, while others have produced from 60 to 100 pounds of honey to date. No extracting of new crop honey was reported. A few small lots of beeswax were sold at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b.

Indiana. Very favorable weather during this period permitted strong colonies to build up large surpluses from the various clovers. Thunder showers have benefited the clover crop. Considerable swarming has been reported where proper control measures have not been exercised.

Illinois. Strong colonies have built up a good surplus from white, alsike, and yellow and white sweet clovers, all of which are now blooming. Many colonies were extremely weak at the time this flow began and are just now in a position to make a slight surplus. Taken as a whole beekeepers who brought their colonies through the winter in good condition feel unusually optimistic toward this season's prospects. In some sections of the State the ground was still too wet at the end of June for farmers to plant a normal acreage of corn and soybeans. This may result in an unusual abundance of heartsease and other fall producing plants.

Kentucky. This period was ideal for honey gathering, with heavy surpluses reported from the many sources of supply. White clover and yellow and white sweet clover have produced heavily, with some surplus being obtained from alder. Excessive swarming is reported in poorly managed yards but swarming has been relatively light where proper room and control measures have been provided. In some sections rain will soon be needed to extend the blooming season. Little honey has been harvested as it is not yet fully ripe. A few small lot sales of section comb honey were reported at \$7.00 per case of 24 sections.

NORTHEASTERN STATES: (Period June 12-27)

New York. Weather conditions have been ideal during this period and good surpluses of White Clover honey have been stored by those colonies which came through the winter in good condition. Many colonies, however, which were weak have not been able to take full advantage of this flow. The clover bloom in most sections has been more profuse than for a number of years. In some sections, however, rain will be needed shortly to extend the white clover season. In most yards swarming to date has been negligible. First crop alfalfa cutting is beginning and so far little alfalfa honey has been stored. No sales of new crop honey were reported. A few sales of old crop White Clover honey were reported at \$5.05 per case of 6, 5-lb. pails, and \$4.90 per case of 24, 1-lb. glass jars; and Buckwheat at \$5.15 per case of 6, 5-lb. pails. Medium yellow beeswax sold at the ceiling of 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. f.o.b.

Vermont. Clovers are now producing abundantly. Alfalfa is in bloom and secreting some nectar. Due to the heavy winter losses the number of bees available is considerably below that of a year ago for the State as a whole. Many beekeepers lost half their bees during the winter and spring; a few had almost complete losses. In other yards losses were very light. In many cases the reason for these heavy losses are not apparent, although in some it is believed the presence of honeydew may have been responsible.

Connecticut. Colonies were on the verge of starvation all through the spring but around the 20th of June conditions began to improve and there is now a good honey flow. Colony conditions have greatly improved. Scaled honey is now in most of the hives and brood nests are nearly normal. Some weak colonies are still far from normal but there is now a prospect of getting a crop of honey even from these hives if hot weather holds through the sumac blooming period, which should begin in about a week.

New Jersey. A good clover flow is now on. Strong colonies have already stored from 60 to 100 pounds of honey. The weather has been ideal both for nectar secretion and bee flights. Good rains toward the end of the period should prolong the clover flow and put sumac, which is about ready to bloom, in good condition.

Pennsylvania. In some sections of the State the clover flow, which is now at its peak, has been extremely good. In other sections yields have been rather disappointing. In some sections clover stands are rather light, due to the late wet spring. Swarming has been troublesome except in those yards where unusual precautions have been exercised. Buckwheat plantings now look like they will be somewhat short. Sumac is coming into bloom and appears quite promising.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period June 12-27)

Maryland. Various clovers are now the principal source of nectar, although some honey is being gathered from wild grape and sumac. The long period of dry, hot weather slowed up the honey flow from clover somewhat, but heavy showers at the end of the period should extend the clover season. Basswood will soon bloom, a little earlier than normal. Some swarming has been reported.

West Virginia. In the mountain sections white clover is now yielding, but apparently in most areas the flow has been rather light to date.

Virginia. The honey crop is very spotted in Virginia. In the mountain sections of northern Virginia white clover has yielded well for the first time in several years. Some colonies in this section have produced over 100 pounds. On the other hand, other colonies have stored little surplus. In southern Virginia and the Tidewater area the spring honey flow was very disappointing - in some sections bees barely made a living. In southern Virginia sourwood is beginning to bloom and given some additional rain this source should provide a surplus.

North Carolina. The main honey flow in eastern North Carolina is now past. The crop has ranged from very poor to fair, averaging somewhat less than normal. In the Piedmont and mountain areas the spring honey crop was almost a failure, due to late freezes, which injured the bloom, and poor condition of many colonies. Sourwood is beginning to bloom in the mountains and western Piedmont area but it is still too early to prophesy yields in this section. One large lot of Light Amber Gallberry bulk comb honey sold at 12¢ per lb. to the beekeeper plus packing charges. Some bulk comb honey also was sold in supers, at the same price.

South Carolina. The spring crop of honey was extremely short. Lately bees have been gathering honeydew from trees and working sumac actively. Little surplus is expected from the sumac. Sourwood is in bloom in the vicinity of Clemson, but will not begin blooming for several days in the mountains. Very little 1943 crop honey has been available for sale.

SOUTHEASTERN STATES: (Period June 10-25)

Georgia. The main honey flow is over in south Georgia. The honey crop for this section as a whole is probably 50 percent shorter than last year. Some nectar is still being gathered from minor honey plants, such as summer ti-ti and early Mexican clover, which is up and growing well over the cultivated areas of the upper coastal plains. Bees are in normal or better than normal condition. Many beekeepers are actively taking off, packing and shipping honey. Practically all sales of extracted honey in large lots were reported at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers. Some bulk comb honey in 5-lb. pails sold at 17¢ per lb.

Florida. Weather conditions were extremely variable. In the Lake Okeechobee section dry weather has stopped the honey flow in some areas. In the northwestern portion of the State there has been too much rain to provide a good flow from partridge pea. Along the west coast weather has been ideal for the honey flow, with frequent showers. In the western part of the State black mangrove, scrub palmetto and gallberry are producing close to an average crop. Saw palmetto bloom is rather spotted in this area. For the State as a whole the honey flow to date has been rather disappointing, averaging probably a little more than half a normal crop. Generally-speaking bees are in fairly good condition. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted Amber Mixed Flowers, case to ton lots mostly 12¢ per lb.; in small pails and glass jars mostly around 15¢ per lb. Yellow beeswax few sales 40¢ per lb.

Alabama. Over most of the State the weather is hot and dry. Aside from cotton, which is producing a little nectar, there are few plants for bees to work. Package bee shippers wound up their season's operations during this period so many colonies are rather weak. The condition of late summer and early fall honey plants is now good, but more moisture is necessary.

Louisiana. In southern Louisiana the weather is dry, but colonies continue to show a good gain, mostly from vervain and peppervine. Over 200 pounds of surplus honey have already been removed from some of the best colonies. Most of the honey being extracted is lighter in color than usual but some of it is also a little light in weight. Swarming is about over. Except for some small orders the package season has ended, but demand for queens continues good. Package colonies are being requeened and their condition is improving rapidly. A fairly large volume of package orders has already been booked for 1944 delivery. In Northern Louisiana the dry weather has been broken by heavy showers which have improved the honey flow from partridge pea and other wild flowers. In the sweet-clover area bees have stored as much as 140 pounds surplus of heavy bodied honey. All sales reported were at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb. f.o.b. for bulk honey, with 5 and 10-lb. pails being sold at 15-20¢ per lb.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the last of June. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: Arrivals: extracted equivalent 1 car Ohio.

COMB: No supplies on market.

EXTRACTED: Demand good, market strong. All available supplies sold on f.o.b. basis.

CHICAGO: No receipts reported. Practically no supplies on market. No sales reported.

BEESWAX: Dealer's paying for occasional available lot 41¹/₂-43¹/₂¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

CLEVELAND: Arrivals: 100 cases Mich. white clover. Demand exceeds supply.

Market strong, but supplies insufficient to quote.

DENVER: No receipts reported. Demand good, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers and direct to large retailers - COLORADO, White to Water White Sweetclover-Alfalfa, cases, 12, 2-lb. glass jars \$4.50-4.70; 12, 2½-lb. glass jars \$6.30-6.90; 12, 24-oz. glass jars \$3.35-3.65; 24, 1-lb. glass jars \$4.70-5.00.

BEESWAX: Receipts approximately 2,000 lbs. Demand moderate, market steady. Dealers' paying 41½¢ per lb. for domestic crude.

DETROIT: Receipts extracted 3600 lbs. Ohio; origin not specified 2 cars. Demand very good, market firm at ceiling prices.

EXTRACTED: Sales by bottlers to chain stores and jobbers delivered sales-OHIO, per doz. 2-lb. jars White Clover \$4.81. IMPORTED: Flower source unknown per doz. 1-lb. Light Amber \$2.87.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by rail 12,920 lbs. origin not specified; by truck 120, 60-lb. cans Minn. Light Amber.

EXTRACTED: Supplies moderate. Demand very good, market firm at ceiling prices. Sales to wholesale grocers - MINNESOTA, Sweetclover, U. S. No. 1, blended honey 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.27; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.57. Sales to retail grocers - MINNESOTA, Sweetclover, 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.59; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.93.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: origin not specified, by rail 66,287 lbs. and 2 cars; by boat 51 bbls. Supplies available for trade light. Demand good, market unsettled. Domestic no receipts. No sales reported. IMPORTED, Practically all present sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling price. Few sales imported re-processed 1500 lbs. or less 16½¢, 1500-20,000 lbs. 15½¢; 20,000 or more 14½¢.

BEESWAX: Origin not specified 11,146 lbs. and 360 sacks. Supplies very light. Sales by receivers port of entry- SOUTH AMERICA, WEST INDIES and CUBA, Sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢, non-sun-bleachable 41½¢.

PHILADELPHIA: No arrivals. No offerings. No prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck, extracted 11,820 lbs. bottled Midwestern. No offerings. Brokers' unable to obtain supplies. No sales.

PORTLAND: Arrivals: extracted, 1 car origin not specified. Supplies very light. Demand good, market firm. Sales to retailers and other buyers -

EXTRACTED: IDAHO, Sweetclover-Alfalfa, TEXAS and MEXICO Mixed Flowers, 12, 5-lb. jars \$12.48-12.52; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$6.60.

COMB: No supplies.

BEESWAX: Demand good. Prices at ceiling level.

ST. LOUIS: No offerings or trading reported.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND and ALAMEDA: Receipts via truck - Central California 1,583 cases White to Extra White Orange, 587 cases White to Water White Sage, 113 cases White Alfalfa, 284 cases Light Amber Buckwheat, 226 cases Light Amber Eucalyptus, 38 cases White Spikewood; origin not specified 2 cars Light to Extra Light Amber flavor unknown. Northern California, No receipts, Southern California, 552 cases White to Extra White Sage.

EXTRACTED: Bottlers using new ceiling prices. Brokers' sales - IMPORTED: Light to Extra Light Amber, flavor unknown 11 3/4¢ per lb.

BEESWAX: Demand good at ceiling prices but practically no offerings.

SEATTLE: No receipts reported. Supplies extremely light. Demand active, market very firm

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case-lots: WASHINGTON and IDAHO, Alfalfa-Sweetclover, Light Amber, 24, 1-lb. cans \$6.52; 12, 42-oz. jars \$7.10; 12, 20-oz. jars \$3.71-3.80; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.65-2.93; 12, 11-oz. jars \$2.15-2.19. Creamed Honey or Honey Butter 24, 14-oz. cups \$5.75-6.50; 24, 40-oz. cups \$13.86.

* The Cleveland, Detroit and Seattle Market News offices have been closed. No further reports will be available from these cities.

HONEY STORAGE IN CANADA

(From Dominion Department of Agriculture Marketing Service, Ottawa, Canada, 6/10/43)
Following are honey storage holdings in pounds as of June 1, 1943, together with comparative figures for the same date last year:-

	<u>CONSUMER CONTAINERS</u>		<u>BULK CONTAINERS</u>	
	<u>1942</u>	<u>1943</u>	<u>1942</u>	<u>1943</u>
Halifax.	1,400	--	--	--
Saint John.	800	*1,300	--	--
Quebec City.	3,135	--	7,650	--
Montreal.	61,106	--	49,070	--
Ottawa.	9,264	--	--	--
Toronto.	97,550	10,100	168,606	37,570
Winnipeg.	43,308	--	14,285	--
Regina.	9,216	--	--	--
Saskatoon.	664	--	--	--
Edmonton.	5,748	13,152	--	--
Lethbridge.	23,280	--	--	--
Calgary.	21,936	--	--	--
Vancouver.	70,980	20,086	16,900	76,878

* For Military purposes only.

BEESWAX SALVAGE PROGRAM

The following press releases were recently prepared by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

CULL COMBS FOR BEESWAX

Here's a way for everybody who keeps bees to do a service for our Army and Navy.

In a good share of the millions of beehives in this country, some of the combs are doing little more than serving as a nursery for drones. The wax in these combs is badly needed right now in making dozens of items for our soldiers and sailors.

Bee specialists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture urge beekeepers to go over their hives and cull out the poorest comb in each ten. Cull out the combs that have large patches of drone cells. These drone cells are good only for storage. They are the last to be filled. What's more, drones don't make honey, and a large number of drones means more bees to feed on the honey suppliesAlso cull out the crooked combs, broken combs, and the combs the mice have chewed. Replace them with sheets of foundation to obtain the better-built combs during this year's flow of honey.

Right now while the new flow of honey is coming on is the ideal time to cull. The bees can build more new combs now than at any other time. The culling will not seriously cut honey production.

The Department specialists point out that culling the poor combs is a paying practice at any time. With good worker combs, the bees can work more efficiently, the hives have fewer drones to eat up the honey the workers make, the bees are less likely to swarm. And with wax bringing 41-1/2 cents a pound cash and 43-1/2 cents in trade, the culling also pays in dollars and cents.

But more important than the money from the wax -- or even the improvement in the hives -- is the contribution beekeepers can make through providing wax for war needs.

With more wax needed for war materials and with less wax coming in from other countries, we have to depend more on wax from our bees here at home.

So cull the poor combs in your hives and sell the wax to the dealer from whom you get your beekeeping supplies, or to some other buyer.

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PROTECT BEESWAX FROM MOTHS

With our imports of beeswax limited by the war, and with a short crop of honey last year, we have to save every pound of wax we produce here at home to meet our Army and Navy needs for beeswax.

Bee specialists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture say that we probably lose more beeswax from damage by the wax moth than from any other one cause.

When the bee colonies are strong, the bees themselves keep the wax moth under control. The big loss of wax comes after the beekeeper takes the combs out of the hives and stores them.

To prevent loss of wax, the bee specialists recommend stacking up supers of combs as tightly as possible after extracting the honey. Then after sealing all cracks between supers with gummed paper fumigate with para-di-chloro-ben-zene, or some other fumigant. Incidentally, para-di-chloro-ben-zene is the same material you use to control the ordinary clothes moth.

After you've fumigated the combs and frames, inspect them every two or three weeks during the summer, because the fumigation does not destroy the eggs. If you see fresh signs of the wax moth, fumigate again.

If you have wax around you won't use, sell it before the wax moth gets a chance at it.

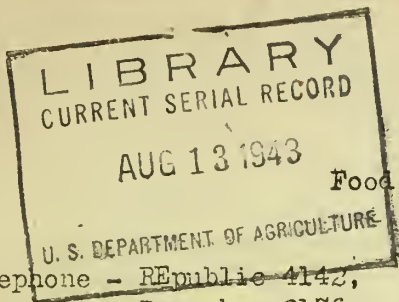
We need to protect combs from the moth -- and to save every single scrap of comb and wax -- to provide beeswax used in making shells, planes, and other war materials.

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Release July 5, 1943.

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WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
Food Distribution Administration.

Telephone - REpublic 4142,
Branch 2176.

Washington, D. C.
July 15, 1943.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - NO. 604

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

SUMMARY

The weather during the first half of July was very favorable for both honey plants and bee activity in nearly all sections of the country. Except for the Southwest moisture conditions continue favorable for plant growth, although in Ohio and parts of the far Southeast excessive rainfall has cut nectar secretion. In the Northeast, North Central and Plains areas the clover flow is now at its height; and good surpluses are being built up in most States. The heavy rainfall of the spring and early summer over the clover area put plants in unusually good condition. In the northern States basswood is now blooming, but in most areas the bloom has been below normal and no large amounts of Basswood honey have been stored. A fairly good surplus is being made in Colorado, but little honey has been stored to date in the other States of the Intermountain Region. Due to the late spring in this area many colonies have just built up to surplus storing strength. The sage and buckwheat flow in Southern California is about average, while the honey flow in central and northern California is currently running a little less than normal. Extracting is quite general in the Southeast, Southwest and in southern California. Little clover honey is yet ripe and about the only extraction of this honey to date has been for local consumption, except in Louisiana where clover honey has been moving for several weeks.

Buyers have been unusually active in all parts of the country in attempts to contract the 1943 crop at ceiling levels. Little attention is being paid by buyers to flavor or color of honey, ceiling prices being bid for nearly everything except the very poorest grades. An unusual number of sales by producers to local retailers and consumers are being reported. This has limited the quantities of honey moving to regular wholesalers and packers in many areas. Considerable beeswax, mostly in small lots, is moving to market in all sections of the country. Practically all beeswax is moving at the ceiling of 41¹/₂¢ cash, and 43¹/₂¢ in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers. Labor shortage in nearly all sections is hampering large commercial beekeepers in the movement of their bees to new locations and also in extracting of the new crop.

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (June 24-July 7)

Southern California. Weather conditions have been favorable in most sections during this period, although some coastal areas reported temperatures a little too low for best nectar secretion. Most honey plants are holding up well. Some bees are being moved to the bean acres and some to higher altitudes where sage and wild buckwheat are just coming on. Deerweed, sumac, tarweed, horehound, bluecurls, sweetclover, white clover and toyon are also yielding. In the irrigated valleys second crop alfalfa has largely been cut, but bees are still able to make a living and in some sections store a slight surplus. Brush fires in San Diego and Riverside Counties have destroyed considerable valuable bee pasture. Moderate to good yields of Sage and Sage-Buckwheat honey are being reported in the principal producing areas. Reports indicate that a majority of the Orange honey has been sold by beekeepers, although they are still holding some fairly large lots. Demand for all honey continues heavy with all grades and flavors moving at the ceiling of \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds, f.o.b. shipping point.

Imperial Valley. Weather and colony conditions are normal for this season. Alfalfa and sweetclover are now producing well and tamarisk trees are beginning to bloom. Such extracting as has been completed indicates a normal crop to date. Much of the Alfalfa honey in the Imperial Valley has been contracted and some has moved to market at the ceiling of \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds, f.o.b. shipping point, regardless of color.

Central California. Temperatures below normal prevailed during the first part of this period. During the latter part of the period they were above normal in the interior valleys, but slightly below normal on the coast. Bees are generally in good condition. The flow of nectar from most sources is running somewhat below normal. Bees are working sweetclover, alfalfa, spike-weed, and in the mountain districts buckwheat and wild alfalfa. Labor shortage is hampering movement of colonies to new locations and slowing up extracting operations. Demand for honey is running far ahead of the available supply at ceiling prices. Sales by producers, ton lots or more, delivered Bay Cities via

truck - White to Extra White Orange 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ -12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, White to Water White Sage and Light to Extra Light Amber Buckwheat 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, Extra Light Amber Eucalyptus 12¢; delivered Interior Valley points - White to Extra White Orange 12-12 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢, White to Water White Sage, White Sage-Buckwheat and Light Amber Buckwheat 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. Beeswax- few sales 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. f.o.b.

Northern California. Cool weather prevailed over most of Northern California during this period. Bees in the valleys have built up fairly well but in the mountain sections many colonies are still below full storing strength. A few beekeepers are still feeding. Many colonies are being moved from the mountains to the valleys for the lima beans and yellow star thistle flow. Alfalfa, lippia, Ladino clover, carrots, and asparagus are also producing in valley locations. In the mountains some nectar is being obtained from snowbrush and late buckbrush. Star thistle now appears about normal. So far little honey has been offered in this district. Sales f.o.b., per lb., delivered Interior Valley Points - Extra Light Amber Manzanita 12¢.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period June 24-July 7)

West of Cascades. Temperature records indicate the summer in all sections West of the Cascades has been one of the coolest in the past ten years. There have been many days when bees could fly but short distances because of rain or wind. Vetch, alfalfa, Canadian thistle, and various wild flowers are furnishing considerable feed and a little surplus. Most of these honey plants, however, are maturing rapidly and will come to the end of their secretion period very shortly in the Willamette Valley. Many bees are being moved to fireweed, which is blooming two to three weeks later than normal. Apparently there is some shortage of fireweed plants considering the district as a whole, but such plants as are available are in excellent condition with indications of a heavy bloom. Some vetch and vine maple honey is being extracted. Yields are extremely variable, running from extremely low to close to normal. In the Rogue River Valley bees and plants are in good condition, but the weather has not been especially favorable for the storing of a large surplus. Mustard and various clovers yielded during this period. The clover hay crop has mostly been harvested.

East of Cascades. Temperatures have been very favorable. In most locations alfalfa and sweetclover are yielding well, with some additional honey coming in from asparagus and mustard. A good yield was reported from locust in southeastern Washington and northeastern Oregon. Scale colonies are storing at the rate of three to four pounds per day, with the heaviest flow from alfalfa still to come during the latter part of July and early part of August. In general prospects in this area appear normal or slightly better than normal. Most of the honey so far extracted in the Northwest, both east and west of the Cascades, is being sold locally and to roadside shoppers, with the result that little has found its way through regular wholesale channels. Most sales have been at ceiling levels.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period June 24-July 8)

Conditions in Colorado are quite favorable and considerable surplus honey has been stored. In the remainder of the Intermountain States conditions range from poor to only fair. In most States, with the exception of Colorado, bees got off to a late start and many colonies have not yet built up to storing strength. Plant conditions are fair to generally good, excepting in Idaho where there is a shortage of both alfalfa and sweetclover. Extracting will get actively under way within the next few weeks in Colorado and southern Wyoming, but in the rest of the area it will be some time before any quantity of honey can be taken from the hives. Buyers are actively trying to contract this year's crop at ceiling prices. Several sales of beeswax were reported at 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers. Details by States follow:

Colorado. Weather conditions have been ideal during this period. In most sections of the State a fair crop of honey was made from alfalfa during June, and now the flow is quite heavy from second crop alfalfa. While the season was later than normal it now looks like a normal crop of honey will be made in most sections. On the Western Slope bees are working first crop alfalfa, which is now being cut, and sweetclover. Conditions on the Western Slope do not appear quite as favorable as over the rest of the State.

Wyoming. In some of the irrigated valleys plant conditions are now good and a fairly good flow is under way from alfalfa. First crop alfalfa has largely been cut and in some sections little alfalfa is now available. Weevil damage to alfalfa has been unusually severe in some sections. In most sections clover is rather light. In northern Wyoming many hives have made little or no surplus to date.

Montana. Bees have built up fairly well considering the late spring. Cool, rainy weather prevented full-time bee activity during much of the past period. However, toward the end of the period bees were able to gather considerable honey from alsike, white clover and yellow sweetclover. Weather during the next few weeks will determine the outcome of the crop.

- continued -

Idaho. Prospects in Idaho are discouraging at this time. While the weather during this period was favorable for bee activity many colonies have not built up to take full advantage of the existing flow from alfalfa and sweetclover. The acreage of alfalfa is somewhat short this year since considerable alfalfa land has been turned to potatoes, beets and other cash crops. Ditch banks have been closely pastured, cutting down the supply of sweetclover. In some sections the alfalfa weevil has been serious and alfalfa is being cut for hay, in some cases before blooming.

Utah. The main honey flow from alfalfa is just now getting under way. Many colonies are in fairly good condition, while others are still weak and not yet built up to full storing strength. In fact some beekeepers are still feeding. In general plants are in fairly good condition, some sections report sweetclover in better condition than for a number of years. In some sections alfalfa weevil is causing some damage.

ARIZONA: (Period June 24-July 8)

No reports on condition of either plants or bees were received from Arizona. Sales of Mesquite and Mesquite-Catsclaw honey were reported f.o.b. per lb. as follows: in carlots 12¢; case to ton lots 12-12½¢, and in single 60s 12-13¢.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period June 25-July 9)

East Texas. The weather in this section has been dry and it now looks as though the crop will be short. Sales f.o.b. per lb., extracted Mixed Flowers, White, case to ton lots 11½¢, in small pails 16 3/5¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢.

Southeast Texas. Extracting of Mesquite honey has been largely completed in this section. One large beekeeper reports an average of 40 pounds per colony, with quality very good. Some Mesquite honey was mixed with Hubam Clover. Sales f.o.b., Mesquite and Mesquite-Clover 12-lb. glass jugs \$2.20 each.

Southwest Texas. Showers which started around the 10th relieved somewhat the recent hot, dry wave and should help bees brood up. Little nectar is now coming in from any source. Sales f.o.b., per lb. - Huajillo-Catsclaw, case to ton lots 12¢, single 60s 15¢, in 5-lb. pails 19¢; bulk comb Huajillo-Catsclaw in small pails 20¢ per lb.

Oklahoma. The main nectar flow from white sweetclover is over. Strong colonies stored considerable surplus. Honey plants are now in need of rain. Very little new crop honey is on the market.

Arkansas. The weather is extremely dry. The vetch flow is over in eastern Arkansas and was somewhat short. Buckwheat vine is now in bloom.

PLAINS AREA: (Period June 25-July 10)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. Hot weather since early July has given bees an excellent opportunity to build up and store some surplus. Both yellow and white sweetclover are now in bloom and yielding well. There is some reduction in acreage of sweetclover as compared with a year ago so there is a question in the minds of some beekeepers as to whether as large a crop will be made as last season. By the end of the period many colonies had 40 to 50 pounds in the hives and were rapidly storing in supers. Package bees have built up fairly well. There has been some swarming, mostly swarms that have superseded, but so far swarming has not been serious. A good rain at the close of the period helped clover plants and should extend the blooming season.

Iowa. In general weather conditions have been very favorable during this period, although a few local sections report a little too much cool, rainy weather. A good flow is now on from both sweetclover and white clover. Basswood is blooming but in most sections of the State bees are working it sparingly. As a whole gains have been very favorable with a number of beekeepers reporting an average build up of six to ten pounds per day. Most of the nectar so far is thin and to date little honey has been sealed. Extracting should begin in a general way around August 1, about ten days later than normal. A little honey has been extracted and all has moved at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb., f.o.b. to beekeepers.

South Dakota. Conditions are favorable, with good weather and honey plants in good condition. White clover and sweetclover are now yielding.

Kansas. Maximum temperatures have held in the upper 80s during much of this period. There has been no rain for two weeks, but soil moisture is adequate. Weather has been very favorable for nectar secretion and bee flights. Strong colonies are storing an abundance of honey with a number of beekeepers reporting 75 to 100 pounds per colony to date, mostly from sweetclover and white clover.

Nebraska. Bees began storing nectar about July 1, two weeks to a month later than normal. In most sections of the State both sweetclover and white clover were in full bloom. In the Northwest section of the State, however, white clover was just beginning to bloom. Many colonies were weak at the beginning of this flow, but by the end of the period most had built up and were storing a surplus. Clover stands are rather spotted in most sections, being somewhat lighter than a year ago. Temperatures have been fairly high, with a number of showers. No honey sales were reported. A little beeswax moved at the ceiling of 43½¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Missouri. Conditions are only fair with bees making an average daily gain of one to two pounds. Many colonies have not yet made their winter stores. Sales f.o.b. per lb., dark fair quality 10¢. Beeswax dark 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period June 25-July 10.)

Michigan. On the Northern Peninsula bees began working clover around July 5 and are now showing a gain on the scale hive of from one to six pounds per day. Most colonies had not built up well because of the cold, wet spring. Very little spring honey was gathered. On the Southern Peninsula colonies and honey plants are both in good condition. Bees are now storing a good surplus from clover. A couple of heavy showers which fell toward the end of the period should help to extend the nectar flow. Occasional strong swarms already have as much as 200 pounds of surplus honey. Many colonies, however, had to use the early part of this flow to build up to storing strength, so the average will be much below this. It is estimated that the number of colonies is probably not more than 75 percent of the number of the State last season, due to the heavy winter losses. The heaviest losses were among the small beekeepers and few colonies were replaced by package bees except among the larger commercial beekeepers. While indications are that colony yields should be fairly good, with the lighter bee population it is likely that the tonnage of honey produced in the State will be lighter than a year ago. Milkweed, sweetclover, basswood, and sumac are in bloom in the southern part of the State. Basswood, however, has only about half a normal bloom. No extracting has yet been reported but some honey in southern Michigan is about ready to come off. A little beeswax moved at the ceiling of 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb., cash to beekeepers.

Wisconsin. An excellent flow is in progress from white, alsike and sweetclovers. Much of the alsike clover crop has been cut but white clover is plentiful in pastures. The sweetclover flow is exceptionally heavy and now at its peak. Over most of the State there has been sufficient rainfall to keep plants in excellent condition and prolong the flow. In some of the well managed yards surpluses of around 100 pound per colony have been made to date. So far there has been little swarming in well managed yards. Basswood began to bloom around the 10th. Although a little new crop honey has been extracted, extracting will not become general for at least a couple of weeks. Such sales as have been reported have all been at the ceiling level of 12¢ per lb. in 60s, and 15¢ per lb. in small pails, with a few small lots sold by beekeepers to consumers as high as 17¢ per lb.

Minnesota. The first half of this period was cool and rainy, but since around July 4 weather has been ideal and bees have stored considerable surplus. The earlier heavy rains over most of Minnesota have put clovers in excellent condition. Yellow sweetclover has yielded well, but in some sections the white clover flow has been rather disappointing. Many colonies were in rather poor condition when the flow started. Some good colonies have already stored around 100 pound surplus, but considering the weaker colonies the present average will not be over 40 or 50 pounds. It has been estimated that about 20 percent of the colonies, on an average, have made no surplus of honey to date and that about 10 percent of the colonies will do well to make winter stores. Basswood, milkweed, blue vervain, and sumac are now blooming, but bees do not appear to be working these plants very extensively.

Ohio. The honey flow so far has been disappointing over most of Ohio. Cool, wet weather reduced the yield from clover, which is rapidly drawing to a close, although in some sections bees are still obtaining a little surplus from this source. Many beekeepers report no surplus so far while others report an average of around 30 to 40 pounds. One large beekeeper reports that several of his yards have made nothing more than winter stores. Only a very little honey has been extracted so far, with shortage of labor retarding extracting operations. A little comb honey has sold at \$6.00 per case on No. 1, with No. 2 at \$5.00, a few best high as \$5.50, and No. 3 at \$4.00 per case.

Indiana. Ideal weather prevailed during most of this period, although around the end of June it became quite cool. Rainfall has been heavy in some sections. It was impossible to seed some fields and these areas are now mostly covered with a healthy growth of heartsease, which may bring a good flow in August. The clover flow continues heavy, with good stands of white clover in pastures. The limited amounts of sweetclover available are yielding well. Alsike clover is practically dried up. Yields have been very good so far, with strong colonies storing around 150-175 pounds. If all colonies had been uniformly strong the production in Indiana this year would have been above average. However, the relatively high percentage of weak colonies will pull the average colony yield down so that the total crop will likely not be much above average unless considerable fall honey is stored. Considerable swarming has been reported but has not been excessive considering the heavy flow during this period.

Illinois. Conditions in Illinois are spotted. The white clover flow in most section has been fairly good - some areas reporting heavier than for a number of years. The acreage of sweetclover has been somewhat reduced, due to the demand for cash crops. Some beekeepers report their bees are just building

up to working strength, and have not yet made as much as next winter's stores. Little extracting has been done by commercial beekeepers. Sales f.o.b.; per lb. extracted Clover 1942 crop, case to ton lots 12¢ per lb.

Kentucky. Weather, honey plants, and bees are now in ideal condition. Although the flow has started to taper off, considerable nectar continues to come in from white sweetclover and alder. It is expected that the flow to around the middle of July will average around 50 pounds per colony. Little honey has been extracted. The only sales reported were in small pails at 20¢ per lb.

NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period June 26-July 12)

New York. Conditions are extremely variable over New York State. In the south central portion present information indicates a short crop. In the northern and eastern sections the clover flow has been quite good during the first part of July. Some beekeepers have reported gains during the last few days of June and first ten days of July as high as 100 pounds per colony. Many colonies were weak at the beginning of the flow and were not in position to make any gain until the flow was well under way. In most sections of the State moisture conditions have been favorable, with sufficient rainfall to prolong the clover flow. On the other hand, some local areas need rain. In the south central area the buckwheat acreage is expected to be a little above normal this season, while in most other sections of the State the acreage may be somewhat reduced. Basswood is blooming but so far has produced little nectar. There is little ripe honey on the hives and extracting is not expected to begin before July 25 or August 1. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted White Clover in single 60s 14½-15½¢ per lb., 5-lb. pails and jars 16-16 2/3¢ per lb., and 1-lb. jars 20-23½¢ per lb. Comb fancy White Clover \$6.00 per case. Beeswax 41½¢ cash, and 43½¢ in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

New Jersey. In south Jersey bees have done very well to date and beekeepers are beginning to extract in a limited way. In this section the above normal rainfall has produced a heavy growth of fall honey plants. In northern New Jersey the sumac flow has been curtailed by frequent heavy showers. It now appears that the surplus from clover and sumac may run around 100 pounds from normal colonies. However, a fairly large percentage of colonies which went into the flow in rather weak condition will cut the average below this. Beeswax, sales per lb. 41½¢ f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Pennsylvania. The clover flow is largely over in Pennsylvania and has been rather disappointing in most sections. Cool, rainy weather early in July shut off the clover flow and very little honey was gathered since that date. Some strong colonies have a surplus of 50 to 75 pounds, although the average from the clover flow will probably run 40 pounds or less. In northern Pennsylvania the buckwheat acreage is somewhat lighter than last season or normal. However, the recent rainy weather has put the buckwheat crop in fairly good condition and it is expected it will begin blooming by the time the clover crop has been extracted. Beeswax, sales per lb. 41½¢ f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Vermont. See bottom of page.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period June 26-July 12)

Maryland. In western Maryland the summer honey flow is about over, although in some sections a fairly good flow is on from milkweed. The basswood flow is very spotted, in some parts of western Maryland being almost a failure. Some robbing by bees has been reported. Colonies that were in good condition at the beginning of the season have made an average crop to date, while those that were weak have built up and in most cases made winter stores, although most such colonies have so far stored little surplus. Occasional beekeepers report the crop to date a little larger than that of 1942 despite last winter's losses.

West Virginia. In western West Virginia the clover flow is about over, with present indications of a crop of around 50 to 60 pounds per colony. Sourwood is blooming well, but excessive rainfall has prevented bees from taking full advantage of this flow. Surplus from sourwood is being built up slowly. Fall honey plants now appear in good condition. Commercial beekeepers have reported little trouble from swarming although it has been excessive among some amateur and farmer beekeepers.

Virginia. In the vicinity of Richmond the flow to date has been about average, with the flavor reported the best in the past ten years. Colonies in this section are in good condition. In the sourwood region some colonies have filled one super and at present prospects from this flow are quite encouraging.

South Carolina. Over most of South Carolina the spring honey crop was almost a failure. Excessive rain prevented bees from making a good start on sourwood in the mountain areas. Sourwood is not blooming as heavily as usual and it now appears that the crop from this source will not be much over half of normal.

Vermont. The Champlain Valley has had a constant flow for about three weeks. Considerable clover remains uncut and pasture clover looks very good. Weather has been generally hot and dry. Many bees were in poor condition at the beginning of the flow and have not been able to take full advantage of it.

SOUTHEASTERN STATES: (Period June 25-July 10)

Georgia. The honey crop in South Georgia has to date averaged about one half of normal. Honey plants are in fine condition for the summer and fall flows. Seasonable showers have furnished ample moisture. Many bees in swamp areas are being moved to summer stands where Mexican clover is beginning to bloom. A light flow is being obtained from cowpeas and summer truck crops. Much of the spring crop has been extracted, although labor shortage is delaying this operation with some beekeepers. Much of the honey is dark. Most sales reported have been at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb., f.o.b., in case to ton lots, with 1 large lot sale of Mixed Flower honey in 5-lb. pails at 16.96¢ per lb.

Florida. In most sections of the State excessive rainfall has cut down the flow during this period. Honey plants, however, appear in excellent shape although the nectar flow is rather light. Most reports to date indicate a crop running from 50 to 75 percent of normal, in most cases averaging around 50 percent or a little better. This applies to orange, gallberry and saw palmetto. Prospects are now favorable for a fair to average yield from black mangrove. The only sale reported was one large lot of Amber Mixed honey in small pails and 1-lb. glass jars at 16¢ per lb.

Alabama. Little honey is being obtained at this time except from cotton in some locations. Poisoning from cotton has been more prevalent in some sections this year than normal. Some serious losses have been reported. Practically all honey being extracted is moving well to the retail trade at ceiling or near ceiling prices.

Louisiana. In the extreme southern part of the State daily showers interfered with flights during much of this period, but in the vicinity of Baton Rouge and further north only occasional showers have been reported. In southern Louisiana the honey flow has been above normal for this time of year with scale colonies in the vicinity of Baton Rouge gaining two to five pounds a day. Vervain and peppervine are now yielding. Many beekeepers have already extracted in excess of 100 pounds per colony. Demand for honey continues active, but some reports indicate that buyers are lowering their bids. Most honey is moving in five and ten pound pails at 15-20¢ per lb., with some small sales to consumers being reported as high as 25¢ per lb.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the middle of July. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: No arrivals reported. No supplies on market. No sales reported.

CHICAGO: No receipts reported. Practically no supplies on the market. No sales reported.

BEESWAX: Dealers paying for occasional lot 41½-43½¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

DENVER: No arrivals reported. Demand good, too few sales to establish market.

BEESWAX: Demand moderate, market steady. Dealers' paying 41½¢ per lb. for domestic crude.

MINNEAPOLIS: No arrivals.

EXTRACTED: Supplies moderate. Demand very good, market firm at ceiling prices. Sales to wholesale grocers - MINNESOTA, Sweetclover, U. S. 1 blended, 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.27; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.57; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$5.72. Sales to retail grocers - MINNESOTA, Sweetclover, 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.54; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.95; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$6.50.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: Origin not specified by rail 1 car, 41 bbls. Fla., 1600 lbs. Ga. Supplies light. Domestic, no sales reported. IMPORTED: practically all present sales made f.o.b. Port of entry at ceiling prices. Few sales imported re-processed 1500 lbs. or less 16½¢, 1500-20,000 lbs. 15½¢; 20,000 or more 14½¢.

BEESWAX: Supplies very light. Sales by receiver port of entry- SOUTH AMERICA, WEST INDIES and CUBA, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢, non-sun-bleachable 41½¢.

PHILADELPHIA: No arrivals. No offerings. No prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck 9,300 lbs. bottled Midwestern. Nothing offered. No sales. ST. LOUIS: No offerings or trading reported.

PORTLAND: Arrivals: Extracted, 300, 60-lb. cans Oregon, 100, 60-lb. cans Calif. Demand exceeds supply, market firm. Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots.

EXTRACTED: IDAHO, OREGON, TEXAS, and CALIFORNIA, blended 12, 5-lb. jars \$12.48-12.52; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$6.60.

COMB: No supplies. BEESWAX: Dealers paying 41½¢ for country run wax.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND, AND ALAMEDA: Receipts: via truck, Cent. Calif., 856 cases White to Extra White Orange, 964 cases White to Water White Sage, 165 cases Light to Extra Light Amber Buckwheat, 53 cases Extra Light Amber Eucalyptus; Beeswax 550 lbs. yellow wax. EXTRACTED: Bottlers using new ceiling prices.

Released July 19, 1943.

WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
Food Distribution Administration

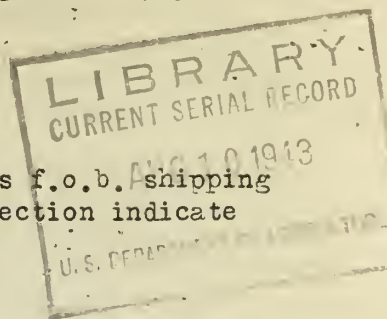
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Washington 25, D.C.
August 2, 1943

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - NO. 605

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)



SUMMARY

Over much of the country conditions were very favorable for honey production during the latter half of July. However, in many sections temperatures averaged above normal and in large areas of the country rain is badly needed. In the Great Plains, East and North Central, and Northeastern areas early season rains put clover plants in good condition, and sufficient rain has fallen since that time to maintain a good honey flow. In Ohio and Pennsylvania too much rain resulted in rather light clover crops. The white clover flow is practically ended except in the Red River Valley, but sweetclover continues to produce throughout the northern States. Production in the Southeastern and Gulf States has been only fair, with the exception of Louisiana where a long steady flow has been in progress and fairly good surpluses have been obtained. Much of the Southwest and southern Great Plains area has been excessively dry. In some sections bees are now obtaining little more than pasturage. A fairly good crop is being stored in eastern and central Colorado, southern Wyoming and the Milk River Valley of Montana. In the rest of the Intermountain Region prospects now appear below normal, partly due to the late season and partly due to the poor condition of bees at the beginning of the main honey flow. In southern California the sage flow is largely ended and bees are now working wild buckwheat. The present flow in central and northern California is only fair. The star thistle flow in northern California is just beginning and present prospects are generally good. In the Pacific Northwest, West of the Cascades the spring vetch and clover flows produced little better than half a crop. Many bees are now being moved to the fireweed areas, which are producing well.

Extracting has been quite general in the southern half of the country from the Atlantic to the Pacific. In the northern half of the country extracting is just getting under way. Beekeepers in all sections of the country are complaining of acute labor shortage. This is especially true of the larger commercial beekeepers.

Buyers continue to scour the country in attempts to contract the 1943 honey crop. Practically all are offering ceiling prices regardless of grade or color. There has been an unusual demand for honey from local retailers and consumers and much of the crop so far extracted has moved in this manner rather than into wholesale channels. There seems to be an unusual demand by consumers for honey in 60s. Many beekeepers indicate they expect to pack a large portion of their crop in small containers for the retail and consumer trade, provided the containers can be obtained.

The July report of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, released on July 28, states that although the size of the 1943 honey crop is still uncertain according to July 1 reports from over 7,500 beekeepers the present outlook points toward a below average crop. Production up to July 1 of this year averaged only 15.5 pounds per hive, compared with an average yield by that date of about 19 pounds. The number of bee colonies on July 1 was estimated at 4,925,000, about the same as a year ago. Details on the present outlook of the crop will be found at the end of this report.

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period July 7-22)

Southern California. Temperatures in southern California during the second half of July ranged generally from normal to above normal, with fogs and some cool weather along the coast. Condition of bees is generally good. Some surplus honey is being stored in most sections. The sage flow is practically over in most districts. Buckwheat and alfalfa are producing some surplus. Other nectar sources are toyon, lima beans, holly, sumac, bluecurls, and turkey mullein. There has been considerable movement of bees into some of the irrigated valleys for the alfalfa and lima bean flow and also to the mountains for wild buckwheat and the later floral sources. Honey continues to move extremely well, with all types and grades selling at the ceiling level of \$14.40 per case of 120 lbs. f.o.b. country point. During the past two weeks sales of the following types of honey have been reported: Orange, Sage, Sage-Buckwheat, Alfalfa, Clover-Alfalfa, Mesquite-Catsclaw, and Mixed Flowers. In addition to the movement in southern California fairly large amounts of honey have been brought in from Arizona, the Imperial Valley, and Blythe districts, all at ceiling levels. Some beekeepers

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continue to hold their honey, or at least a portion of it. Beeswax offerings were rather light, with sales at the ceiling of 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash, and 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Central California. Temperatures were generally below or near normal. Bees are generally in fair condition and are working alfalfa, lima beans, cotton, sweetclover, Ladino clover, button willow, spikeweed, and wireweed. The flow from Ladino clover was lighter than normal. In San Benito County sage was almost a failure and buckwheat and wild alfalfa gave only a light flow. Prospects now appear good for a flow from blue curls. Many bees have been moved from the cotton districts because of poisoning. Labor shortage is hampering extracting operations and movement of colonies to new locations. Many beekeepers are moving a good portion of their crop directly to consumers. Because of this, delivery of honey to bottlers is behind schedule and many bottlers are unable to operate on a full time basis. Sales by producers ton lots or more f.o.b. shipping point per lb. Light Amber Alfalfa, Light Amber Buckwheat, Extra Light Amber White Sage-Buckwheat, White Orange, White Sage, and Light Amber Cappings 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Amber Mixed Flowers 11-11 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢.

Northern California. Weather conditions generally have been favorable both in mountain and valley regions. Plants are reported to be about normal. There has been considerable movement of bees from the vegetable seed areas to the thistle districts. In general star thistle plants are in fairly good condition, although in some sections of the Sacramento Valley plants are drying up. Also in some sections the ploughing of large areas is reducing the acreage of star thistle. Some beekeepers located in mountain areas have suffered some losses from ravages by bears. Sales by producers ton lots or more f.o.b. shipping point per lb. - Extra Light Amber Thistle, Light to Extra Light Amber Manzanita, Extra Light Amber Mixed Flowers, Amber Carrot, and Amber Cedar 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. Light Amber Eucalyptus 11 3/4¢.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period July 7-22)

West of Cascades. Temperatures were moderate with the sky generally overcast in the mornings in the Willamette Valley and along the coast. Higher temperatures prevailed in southern Oregon. Rains and generally cool weather during the early part of the season have produced an abundance of bee pasture. In the Willamette Valley most beekeepers report little better than half a crop from vetch, clover and other early flowers, although some individual beekeepers report yields of around 60 pounds from the early flow. Many bees have been moved to the fireweed areas. While fireweed is not as plentiful in most sections as usual, the plants are in unusually good condition and producing heavily. Some colonies are gaining as much as six pounds a day. In southern Oregon bees are now working alfalfa and sweetclover. Much of the vetch and clover crop has been extracted. A large proportion of it has been sold locally to consumers and retailers and has not moved into wholesale channels. All wholesale movement of Vetch-Clover has been at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb. in case to ton lots, with single 60s moving mostly to consumers at 15¢ per lb., some sales reported higher. Small pails are moving at around 19-19 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb.

East of Cascades. The honey flow during July has been fairly good over most of eastern Oregon and eastern Washington. In some yards bees were unable to gather much honey at the beginning of the flow, which may cut down total production. Alfalfa and sweetclover have both yielded fairly well. Second cutting alfalfa is beginning to bloom. In general plants are in better condition than normal. In the non-irrigated sections sweetclover is beginning to dry up. Some honey has been extracted. The quality and color have been generally normal or better than normal. No sales were reported, although buyers are actively trying to obtain any available lots at ceiling levels.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period July 8-23)

Conditions were quite favorable during the latter half of July in eastern Colorado and southern Wyoming, and prospects are for a fairly good crop in these sections. For the other States in the Intermountain area present indications point to a lighter than normal crop, although in all States bees are now able to gain some surplus, mostly from second cutting alfalfa and sweetclover. Little extracting has been reported from any of the Intermountain States. This should become more active, however, early in August. Buyers continue to scour this area in attempts to contract the 1943 crop. Most are offering the ceiling for any color and grade. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted Alfalfa-Clover case to ton lots 12¢, single 60s 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ -15¢, small pails 18-18 $\frac{1}{6}$ ¢. Details by States follow:

Colorado. On the Western Slope the honey crop so far has been very spotted. Some beekeepers expect a normal crop if weather for the balance of the season permits. Others indicate that the honey flow is now at a standstill, with prospects for a very light crop. The weather in this section has been dry. In eastern Colorado the weather has been exceptionally good with the result that good surpluses have been built up. Some beekeepers indicate that this season's crop in eastern Colorado should exceed that of 1942. Swarming has been heavy.

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PLAINS AREA: (Period July 10-26)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. Weather conditions continue ideal for a honey harvest. Sweetclover is in full bloom and recent rains should extend the nectar flow somewhat. In most sections the quantity of sweetclover available is ample to produce a good crop, although in some sections the acreage was quite sharply reduced, and in these sections the crop may be expected to be lighter than normal. Probably over half of a normal crop has already been gathered over the district as a whole, with many colonies with surpluses of 75 to 100 pounds. The average for the district will likely not exceed 50 pounds surplus per colony to date. Swarming has been relatively light this year. Little or no honey has been extracted and no sales were reported during this period. Buyers have, however, been very active in attempts to contract the crop.

Iowa. Moisture has been sufficient over all of Iowa to maintain honey plants in good condition. The white clover flow is over but sweetclover is still producing well. In many areas there is a shortage of sweetclover which may result in lower yields. At present most beekeepers are looking for a crop about the same as last year's. Fall honey plants are in good condition and it now looks like the main summer and fall flows may blend into one long continuous season. Little extracting has been reported so far, with most of the honey removed going to local retailers and consumers. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted White Clover case to ton lots 12¢; sales to retailers by beekeepers \$5.80 per case of 6, 5-lb. pails; \$5.75 per case of 24, 1-lb. jars. Beeswax country run 41½¢ per lb., f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Kansas. In eastern Kansas the flow during July was good, both from white clover, which is now about finished, and from sweetclover. Many colonies which were in good condition early in the season have stored well over 100 pounds. Hot weather prevailed over the entire State. Rainfall was sufficient in eastern Kansas to maintain plants in good condition and produce a healthy growth on the fall honey plants. In western Kansas, however, hot, dry weather has slowed the honey flow and darkened the honey. Rain is badly needed in this section. Sales f.o.b., extracted Alfalfa and Sweetclover 5-lb. pails \$11.60 per dozen, 1-lb. glass jars \$5.75 per case of 24.

Nebraska. Hot days, with frequent showers have maintained a fair honey flow. Yields from sweetclover in eastern Nebraska have so far been disappointing and general prospects now point to a crop somewhat less than last year. Smartweed plants are unusually plentiful so the outlook for a fall flow from this source now looks good. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted Sweetclover case to ton lots 12¢; in small pails and 3-lb. glass jars 16½¢.

Missouri. Most beekeepers reporting during this period indicate a very light surplus has been gathered so far this year. In fact many colonies do not have sufficient stores for winter. The season has been dry. The clover flow is practically over.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period July 10-26)

Michigan. On the northern Peninsula bees have done very well on white clover during the past two weeks except during periods of showers. Average gains for good colonies have probably been from six to ten pounds per day. Little trouble was reported from swarming in this section. On the southern Peninsula the white clover flow has past its peak, and in many sections is about over. Some exceptionally good colonies have stored a surplus of 200 pounds or more. On the other hand, many colonies which were not in strong condition at the beginning of the flow have stored a surplus of only 30 or 40 pounds. The average for the State to date is probably under 100 pounds per colony. Some nectar is becoming available from second cutting alfalfa and beans. In most sections of the State rain is needed to improve plant conditions. A little extracting has been reported, but most beekeepers will not take off much of the crop before the first week in August. Sales of glass jars have been unusually heavy, which would indicate that many producers will pack and sell much of their crop in smaller containers this year. Consumer sales in 60-lb. cans have also been unusually heavy. Buyers have been active in this section and a number of large beekeepers have contracted at least a portion of their crop at ceiling levels. Sales f.o.b. per lb. White Clover case to ton lots 12¢; 5-lb. pails 14-15¢, a few reported high as 19¢.

Wisconsin. In most districts the white clover flow is largely over, although in some sections considerable white clover honey is still coming in. White sweetclover is furnishing considerable nectar. In some sections basswood is still in bloom, but very little honey has been obtained from this source in any part of the State. Yields are very spotted. Some beekeepers report colony surpluses of 200 pounds or over, but these are exceptional. The average among good colonies is probably around 100 pounds and a very large percentage of weak colonies and late package bees have produced only 30 or 40 pounds to date. In most sections of the State moisture conditions continue favorable, although some districts need rain. A little honey has been extracted. Most of that taken from the hives so far is not fully ripened. The body of the honey is fairly good this year, but the color is generally reported a little darker than normal. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted White Clover in single 60s 12¢; in

Wyoming. In the irrigated valleys the honey flow has been quite good excepting in the extreme northern part of the State where bees got off to a late start and many colonies are still too weak to build up much of a surplus. In southern and central Wyoming yields among better colonies of 100 pounds or more have been reported. In most sections of the State some rain is now needed to prolong the flow. Quality of the honey so far extracted is very good, in many cases running Extra White to Water White.

Montana. In the Milk River Valley of northern Montana present prospects point to a normal crop. Honey plants in this area are now in good condition but at this season of the year weather conditions can change prospects very rapidly. Over the rest of the State the flow was rather light during the first half of July and since the middle of July most good colonies have put in a surplus of only 30-40 pounds. This points to a much lighter than normal crop for the State as a whole. Very little honey has been extracted.

Idaho. The first crop of Alfalfa yielded very little honey. White clover is now in full bloom in the Upper Snake River Valley and yielding fairly well. Second cutting alfalfa is just starting to bloom. Present indications point to a lighter than normal crop for the State as a whole although beekeepers in some sections, notably the Nampa Valley, predict a normal or better than normal crop provided the present flow holds up for another two or three weeks. Some of the early honey was discolored with honeydew. However, all honey being gathered now is of good color.

Utah. The summer flow got under way about July 10 and at present in most sections is fairly good, although in the vicinity of Logan high winds have prevented bees from working part of the time. With the late start which the bees got it seems certain the Utah crop will be lighter than normal this year. Some spray poisoning has been reported where beekeepers were not careful in removing their bees from the orchard sections early enough. Sweetclover plants are more plentiful than for a number of years.

Nevada. The honey crop from first cutting alfalfa has been almost a complete failure over most of western and northern Nevada. Bees are now making a living on sweetclover and gathering some surplus in a few favored locations.

ARIZONA: (Period July 8-23)

In southeastern Arizona considerable mesquite and catsclaw honey have been extracted. Both of these plants continue to put on considerable bloom, with favorable prospects for sufficient honey for another extracting. Both bees and honey plants are in good condition in this section. In the Salt River Valley bees in desert locations are gaining about $1\frac{1}{2}$ pounds a day from tamarisk trees which began to bloom around the middle of July. Due to heavy losses from cotton poisoning in this section last year many bees have been left in desert locations and others moved to locations away from cotton plantings. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted, Mesquite, Alfalfa-Mesquite, and Mesquite-Catsclaw carlots, and case to ton lots 12¢, single 60s 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, small pails 15¢, 1-lb. glass jars 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ each.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period July 9-24)

East Texas. The weather has been very dry during the past two weeks with only a light flow from cotton and cow-itch. Ear-drop yielded fairly well along the rivers. Bees have built up fairly well after the heavy package shipping season, but to date most of these colonies are not in condition to produce much honey. There has been little or no loss from cotton poisoning so far since insect infestation on cotton has been light, which has resulted in little dusting.

Southwest Texas. In much of this section the summer crop of honey was short, due to dry, hot weather. During the past two weeks rain has revived some summer honey plants but bees are not showing any gain at present. In other sections some beekeepers have harvested from 30 to 50 pounds of honey per colony, which is considerably better than was anticipated earlier in the season. Sales f.o.b., per lb., Light Amber Horsemint and Catsclaw in single 60s 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, Beeswax, 40¢ per lb. f.o.b.,

West Texas. Most of west Texas continues unusually dry, with poor prospects for a late summer or fall flow.

New Mexico. In the Mesilla Valley the weather was extremely hot. Bees are gathering a little honey from alfalfa and sweetclover. In northern New Mexico the honey crop is very spotted. In some yards favorable yields have been reported, while in other locations no surplus is yet available. For the State as a whole the yield to date is far below average. New crop extracted honey is moving in case to ton lots at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb. f.o.b.

Arkansas. Little or no rain fell in most sections of Arkansas during July. Bees have continued to obtain some honey from buckwheat vine. Sales f.o.b. in case lots extracted, Mixed Flowers Light Amber to Amber 3-lb. pails 57¢ each, 1-lb. jars and pint jars 21¢ per lb.

Oklahoma. The weather during this period was hot and dry. The crop will be short over much of the State, due to the late wet spring and later drought. Numerous rains during the sweetclover season prevented bees from working. Drought during the past six to eight weeks has now parched nearly all honey plants. A few beekeepers whose bees were in good condition at the beginning of the sweetclover flow have secured a fair crop of honey.

small pails mostly 15¢, with some sales directly to consumers at 18¢, and some poorly ripened honey as low as 13¢. A little beeswax moved at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb., f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Minnesota. Over most of Minnesota only fair gains were reported during this period. The alsike clover flow has ended, white clover is rapidly diminishing, but sweetclover is still in good condition and producing fairly well. Due to the unusually poor condition of most colonies early in the season, surpluses to date are running lighter than normal, with only exceptional colonies having as much as 100 pounds of surplus. Bees worked basswood fairly well, but due to the scanty bloom made little surplus. Little extracting has been reported and this largely for the local trade. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted White Clover small pails and glass jars around 20¢ retail by beekeepers.

Ohio. The crop so far in Ohio has been very much of a disappointment. The clover flow is about over with indications of a 25-50 percent crop from this source. Rains during the last two weeks have extended the clover flow somewhat and small additional quantities may be gathered. Bees have built up well and given favorable working conditions may make considerable gains during the fall flow. In some areas, however, the fall flow may be expected to be below normal because of the smaller acreage of buckwheat. Very little extracting has been done and only limited sales of new crop honey reported. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted White Clover Light Amber case to ton lots 12¢, single 60s 15¢. Comb, White Clover, No. 1 mostly \$5.00 per case, with some fine quality high as \$7.20; No. 2 fine quality White \$5.00; No. 3 fine quality \$4.00.

Indiana. Most commercial beekeepers in Indiana report a fairly good clover flow. While production from both white clover and sweetclover is becoming lighter some honey is still being gathered from these sources. Better than normal rainfall in most sections extended the clover blooming season, although in some areas rain is now badly needed. Some of the stronger colonies have built up a surplus of 100 pounds or more, while the average for good commercial yards is probably around 50-60 pounds to date. Both heartsease and aster plants appear favorable for a fall flow. Very little honey has been extracted to date, and the only sale reported was one small lot of No. 1 White Clover comb honey at \$6.00 per case.

Illinois. In most sections of Illinois the clover crop has been somewhat below normal, although some of the stronger colonies have built up surpluses of 60 to 100 pounds. The clover flow is about over. In some districts moisture is needed, but for the State as a whole moisture conditions are quite favorable. Fall honey plants in general appear in fair to good condition. Very little extracting has been reported. Most of the honey so far sold has gone to local retailers or consumers, with very little moving into wholesale channels. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted White Clover case to ton lots 12¢ per lb. with cans furnished, and 11½¢ per lb. with cans returned, in small pails 15¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ per lb. cash, and 42-43½¢, mostly 43-43½¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Kentucky. The main flow in Kentucky is over. The color and flavor of honey are good. Rain is badly needed and present prospects for the fall flow are rather poor. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted White Clover in single 60s 15¢. Comb White Clover No. 1 Water White \$7.00 per case.

NORTHEASTERN SECTION (Period July 12-27)

New York. In most of western and central New York the yield from the clover crop was not as heavy as previously anticipated. Some of the better beekeepers report average colony yields of 75 to 100 pounds, but many others report yields of 50 pounds or less with very little being gathered now. In these sections of the State rainfall is needed for the buckwheat crop. The buckwheat acreage is considerably lighter than normal and prospects of a large crop from this source are now unfavorable. The buckwheat flow should begin within the next week to ten days. In eastern New York the flow was much better, with some beekeepers reporting the best yields in several years. In this section clover is still yielding and plant conditions are generally favorable. The basswood flow was light in all sections of New York. Many beekeepers are beginning extracting operations, but labor shortage is retarding this activity among many of the larger commercial operators. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted White Clover, case to ton lots 12¢, single 60s 12-15¢, small pails 16¢, 1-lb. glass jars 20-23¢. Comb, White Clover, per case, Fancy \$6.00; No. 1, \$4.80-5.25; No. 2, \$4.80.

Vermont. The main clover flow still continues with rain during the past period extending the blooming season. Where bees are in normal condition the crop is expected to be above normal. Extracting has started in the Champlain Valley. The honey so far removed is of excellent quality. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted White Clover in small pails 16¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 20¢. Beeswax, 42½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Connecticut. A good honey flow prevailed between June 20 and around the middle of July. A medium sized crop of good quality honey is reported. Hives are well stocked with both bees and honey and those apiaries located to gather an August flow should be in good shape. Those apiaries situated in the southeastern part of Connecticut where pepperbush (clethra) and sumac abound should store considerable honey from these sources. Where these two plants do not exist most colonies will lose weight until the fall flow begins.

New Jersey. In south Jersey bees are working lima beans. In the northern part of the State the main honey flow is over and minor plants are now the only sources of nectar. In north Jersey good colonies have stored 100 pounds or more, but the average will be much below this because of the relatively large percentage of weak colonies at the beginning of the season. Quality of the honey is unusually good. In all sections of the State aster and goldenrod now look very promising.

Pennsylvania. Extracting of the clover crop is in full swing so that bees will be ready for the buckwheat flow, which should begin in a limited way early in August. In most sections the ground is becoming very dry and the buckwheat crop is suffering. In some localities the clover honey crop will run only about half of normal, while other sections report a yield close to normal. The quality of the honey so far extracted has been good, with a good color, body, and flavor. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted White Clover case to ton lots 12¢, single 60s 15¢, in small pails 18¢. Beeswax country run yellow 41½¢ per lb., f.o.b.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES (Period July 12-27)

Maryland. Aside from a fairly good nectar flow from milkweed there is little for bees to work on at this time. Most colonies will make only a portion of their living from now until the goldenrod flow begins. This period was unusually dry, with only an occasional thunder shower which added a little moisture to the soil. Rain within the next week or so will greatly influence the outlook for the fall flow.

West Virginia. The white clover flow is drawing to a close. Present indications point to an average yield of 50-60 pounds per colony. Weather conditions are favorable for fall honey plants.

Virginia. Sourwood yields were very light and in many cases almost a complete failure in both the Tidewater and mountain sections of Virginia. In the Tidewater section present prospects are favorable for a fall flow which should begin around August 10. Many bees will be moved into the swamp areas to work on goldenrod and smartweed. Some colonies now show a lighter population than they did a few weeks ago.

North Carolina. No report of conditions of either bees or plants was received from North Carolina. Sales were reported on the following basis: Light Amber Mixed Flowers extracted in barrels 12¢ per lb., in 1-lb. glass jars 19¢ per lb. Bulk comb honey, Gallberry Light Amber 12¢ per lb. in supers, and also 12¢ per lb. plus packing costs when packed in glass jars.

South Carolina. Rain was excessive during most of this period. In the vicinity of Clemson bees are working cow-peas, but little nectar is expected from this source. In the mountains the sourwood flow is about over and not over one-half a crop is expected.

SOUTHEASTERN STATES: (Period July 10-26)

Georgia. Ample showers are keeping honey plants in good condition. A light summer flow is now on in south Georgia from cow-peas and Mexican clover. Colonies have plenty of brood and young bees, with some beekeepers reporting broodrearing at springtime height. Not much honey is being extracted at this time, although many beekeepers are extracting quite closely with the expectation that sufficient surplus for winter stores will be made from the fall flow. The only sale reported was one large lot of Light Amber Mixed Flowers in 5-lb. pails at 17¢ per lb.

Florida. Rain fell during much of this period over large areas of Florida. The mangrove flow is largely over. In the cabbage-palmetto sections some honey is being obtained, although in large areas bloom was blighted by rain. In north Florida a slow flow continues from peas, velvet beans, and purslane. No surplus is expected from this but bees are building up some and maintaining their strength. Fall flowers are in unusually good condition. Extracting so far completed indicates a yield to date of around 50 percent of a normal crop, or slightly better. Considerable honey is moving to market. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted Mixed Flowers Light Amber to Amber, mostly Amber, case to ton lots and in barrels 12¢ per lb., small pails and glass jars 15-17¢ per lb. Beeswax 41¢ per lb., f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Alabama. In most sections of Alabama frequent showers during this period put fall plants in good condition, although in some local areas additional moisture would be beneficial. In extreme southern Alabama bees are making some gains from purslane and field crops, while further north cotton and pepper vine have yielded some honey. In some of the cotton sections poisoning appears to have been more prevalent than usual, with some beekeepers reporting fairly heavy losses.

Mississippi. Little surplus honey was produced so far in eastern Mississippi. White clover yielded fairly well early, but the flow was rather short. In some sections sweetclover was almost a failure, while in other sections bees gained some stores and were able to draw some foundation from this source. Cotton yielded fairly well while the weather was dry and hot, but recent rains and lower temperatures in some sections seem to have slowed up secretion of cotton nectar. Fall honey plants are in fairly good condition. In general colonies are in the best condition in a number of years. No honey sales were reported, but some small lots of beeswax moved at the ceiling of 43½¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Louisiana. In southern Louisiana the honey flow is rapidly diminishing although many colonies are still storing some surplus, largely from blue vervain and other late summer flowers. Much of the summer honey has been thin and considerable fermentation has been reported in some sections. Most of this period was extremely hot with occasional rains. Packaged colonies have built up remarkably well this year and some increase has been made. Sales f.o.b. per lb. Mixed Flowers Light Amber to Amber in barrels 12¢.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the last of July. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: No arrivals. No supplies on market. No sales reported.

CHICAGO: Receipts by rail origin not specified 2 cars; by truck 1085 lbs. Wis.

EXTRACTED: Practically no supplies on market. No sales reported.

BEESWAX: Dealers paying for occasional lot 41½-43½¢ per lb. delivered Chicago

DENVER: Receipts Colorado, extracted approximately 5000 lbs., comb 45 cases, beeswax 2400 lbs. Demand good, market steady for extracted honey.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers and direct to large retail outlets—COLORADO, Alfalfa-White Sweetclover, glass, cases 12, 2-lb. \$4.70-4.76; 12, 5-lb. \$10.12-10.18; 24, 1-lb. \$5.04-5.10; 24, half pound \$2.77-2.80. Sales to retailers—COLORADO, Alfalfa-Sweetclover cases 6, 5-lb. \$5.75-6.00; 24, 1½-lb. \$7.25-7.30.

COMB: No sales reported.

BEESWAX: Demand moderate, market steady. Dealers paying 41½¢ per lb. for domestic crude.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals by truck extracted none, comb 50 cases Minn. 24 sections unwrapped.

EXTRACTED: Supplies moderate. Demand very good, market firm at ceiling prices. Sales to wholesale grocers — MINNESOTA, Sweetclover, U. S. No. 1 blended 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.27; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.57; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$5.72. Sales to retail grocers — MINNESOTA, Sweetclover, 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.54; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.93; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$6.50.

COMB: MINNESOTA, White Clover in window cartons cellophane-wrapped 14-15-oz. sales to wholesale grocers \$5.10, sales to retail grocers \$6.00.

NEWYORK: Arrivals by rail origin not specified 9 cars. Supplies light. Demand good, market firm. Very few sales.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers, bakers and manufacturers — FLORIDA, White Tupelo 16½¢. Imported, practically all present sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling prices. Few sales imported reprocessed, 1500 lbs. or less 16½¢, 1500-20,000 lbs. 15½¢, 20,000 or more 14½¢.

BEESWAX: Arrivals by rail 21,298 lbs. origin not specified. Supplies very light. Demand good, market firm. Sales by receivers port of entry — SOUTH AMERICA, WEST INDIES, and CUBA, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢, non-sun-bleachable 41½¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Arrivals by rail 48,000 lbs. Iowa; by truck 6960 lbs. via N.Y. origin unknown. No local sales reported. BEESWAX: No arrivals. No prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals by rail and truck 5450 lbs. bottled Midwestern. No offerings. No sales.

PORTLAND: Arrivals extracted 120 cans Vetch via motor truck from Oregon. Supplies light. Demand exceeds supply, market firm. Prices nominally unchanged as follows: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots —

EXTRACTED: IDAHO, OREGON, TEXAS, and CALIFORNIA, blended 12, 5-lb. jars \$12.48-12.52; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$6.60

COMB: No supplies.

BEESWAX: Demand good. Dealers paying 41½¢.

ST LOUIS: No offerings or trading reported.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND, and ALAMEDA: Receipts via truck— Central California — 316 cases Light Amber Alfalfa, 623 cases Light Amber Buckwheat, 327 cases Extra Light Amber Sage-Buckwheat, 242 cases White Orange, 53 cases White Sage, 32 cases Light Amber cappings, 250 cases Amber Mixed Flowers; Northern California — 139 cases Extra Light Amber Thistle, 67 cases Light Amber Eucalyptus, 449 cases Light to Extra Light Amber Manzanita, 135 cases Extra Light Amber Mixed Flowers, 200 cases Amber Carrots, 17 cases Amber Cedar. EXTRACTED: Bottlers using ceiling prices. BEESWAX: No offerings. Demand good at ceiling prices.

HONEY CROP REPORT - JULY 1: By Bureau Agricultural Economics, July 28, 1943.

COLONIES OF BEES, 1941, 1942 and 1943 and Yields of Honey per Colony to July 1						WINTER LOSSES AND SPRING GAINS OF COLONIES, AND Condition of Colonies and of Nectar Plants on July 1					
Colonies			Average yield			Colonies			Condition		
STATE:	of honey bees at	beginning of honey flow	of surplus honey	per colony	of surplus honey	lost winter	New	of colonies	of honey plants	Condition	Condition
Geog.:	1941	1942	1943	1942-43	1943	1942-43	1943	1916-25	1943	1916-25	1943
Div.:	1000	1000	Percent	1000	Pounds	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Me.	5	6	100	6	3.6	28	11	89	81	87	91
N.H.	4	3	100	3	8.5	42	35	91	78	85	95
Vt.	7	8	100	8	7.0	20	8	89	76	89	97
Mass.	14	17	100	17	3.1	42	30	91	83	90	87
R. I.	1	1	100	1	6.5	25	16	90	81	95	74
Conn.	17	20	90	18	1.6	26	11	89	75	91	85
N.Y.	183	203	98	199	16.0	31	25	90	83	91	92
N.J.	25	27	96	26	39.0	20	15	93	86	88	90
Pa.	170	190	97	184	19.0	22	19	92	87	89	88
N.Atl.	426	475	97	462	17.1	27	21	91	84	90	91
Ohio	275	310	96	298	17.0	18	17	92	86	89	87
Ind.	144	159	97	154	16.0	26	15	92	83	88	90
Ill.	205	225	85	191	6.3	34	18	89	80	83	79
Mich.	160	176	98	172	6.8	25	19	88	78	82	94
Wis.	160	183	102	187	8.6	23	20	88	81	87	92
E.N.C.	944	1053	95	1002	11.5	25	18	90	82	86	89
Minn.	210	240	105	252	6.3	38	40	89	85	88	91
Iowa	167	200	100	200	7.0	29	34	90	81	83	86
Mo.	136	160	100	160	4.9	30	28	88	86	81	93
N.Dak.	21	24	88	21	8.0	33	35	96	85	92	78
S.Dak.	14	17	106	18	3.8	24	33	90	88	90	92
Nebr.	37	46	107	49	11.0	19	22	90	84	85	78
Kans.	31	40	110	44	17.0	15	14	90	86	82	91
W.N.C.	616	727	102	744	7.1	31	33	89	84	86	88
Del.	3	4	75	3	11.0	15	10	88	82	81	88
Md.	23	24	100	24	17.0	20	17	94	86	83	81
Va.	116	128	93	119	13.0	21	13	91	83	83	74
W.Va.	95	104	91	95	10.0	35	21	88	83	82	72
N.C.	164	183	90	165	10.0	27	13	92	80	85	71
S.C.	50	55	95	52	16.0	24	13	93	82	83	75
Ga.	160	173	100	173	14.0	10	9	91	82	80	72
Fla.	146	150	108	162	41.0	17	20	93	88	86	76
S.Atl.	757	821	97	793	18.3	31	15	91	83	83	74
Ky.	140	147	104	153	12.0	19	19	90	87	84	81
Tenn.	150	158	98	155	15.0	23	15	88	85	79	73
Ala.	116	128	110	141	21.0	8	9	88	89	77	81
Miss.	53	56	107	60	28.0	11	15	86	95	76	88
Ark.	75	75	93	70	8.5	24	17	90	87	79	78
La.	52	56	111	62	21.0	9	15	96	91	89	90
Okla.	37	40	108	43	11.0	23	23	90	86	81	81
Tex.	200	196	104	204	20.0	7	8	89	93	68	83
S.Cent.	833	856	104	888	17.2	14	14	89	89	76	81
Mont.	33	37	105	39	6.9	13	22	91	83	89	83
Idaho	128	124	109	135	2.2	16	29	87	86	88	85
Wyo.	30	31	113	35	1.6	14	28	93	87	92	88
Colo.	64	66	105	69	4.3	11	12	90	90	85	80
N.Mex.	15	15	113	17	8.3	20	27	89	84	86	81
Ariz.	68	75	105	79	42.0	18	11	92	89	74	68
Utah	51	47	111	52	2.2	13	22	91	86	89	77
Nev.	13	13	108	14	3.2	8	18	84	83	85	44
Wash.	64	71	94	67	4.0	20	18	87	89	89	97
Oreg.	51	54	106	57	14.0	21	23	87	88	77	90
Calif.	395	450	105	472	35.0	11	11	88	88	75	84
West.	912	983	106	1036	21.4	14	16	88	88	81	81
U. S.	4478	4915	100	4925	15.5	21	19	90	85	84	84

Although the size of the 1943 honey crop is still uncertain, according to July 1 reports from over 7,500 beekeepers, the present outlook points toward a below average crop. The unusually late spring throughout much of the country retarded production considerably. Production up to July 1 averaged only 15.5 pounds per hive compared with an average yield by that date of about 19 pounds. The number of bee colonies on July 1 is estimated at 4,925,000, about the same as a year ago.

In the Southeast, where about 75 percent of the crop is usually made by July 1, the production promises to be close to 20,000,000 pounds, about a million pounds less than in 1942 and 1941, if yields during the later part of the season are average. Florida production will probably be close to the 8,250,000 pounds produced last year.

In most of the South Central area where about 60 percent of the crop is usually gathered by July 1, the production has been much better than usual, particularly in the Gulf Coast States of this area and, if later yields are average, a total crop of about 22,000,000 pounds might be realized, compared with about 14,383,000 in 1942 and 17,516,000 in 1941.

In the North Atlantic and most of the Far Western States it is too early to anticipate the season's yield because less than half of the crop has been gathered. In the North Atlantic area, production to July 1 was only slightly below average. In the Far West it was slightly above average owing to the favorable early yield in California. If the later honey flow, which usually provides about 40 percent of the State's crop should be average, a crop of about 25,000,000 or 26,000,000 pounds could be produced in California this year as compared with 20,250,000 last year and 22,910,000 in 1941. The Arizona crop of about 5,500,000 pounds now indicated would be about 500,000 pounds less than that of 1942.

In the North Central States, where usually about 40 percent of the total United States honey crop is produced, the bees had a very unfavorable early season, frequent rains confining them to the hive during much of the period of early bloom. Ordinarily by July 1 from 25 to 30 percent of the honey crop in this area has been made. The production this year was not more than half the usual yield to that date.

If the more favorable weather conditions of late June and the first 3 weeks of July in the North Central States continue the bees in that area may be able to build up colony strength and gather a good late crop from the clovers, alfalfa and other late blooms. But the summer and fall yields would have to be exceptionally good to compensate for the small early crop.

Reserve

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WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
Food Distribution Administration

Telephone-REpublic 4142
Extension 2176

Washington 25, D. C.

August 16, 1943

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - NO. 606

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

SUMMARY

Temperatures continued relatively high during the first half of August over practically the entire country east of the Rocky Mountains. Drought conditions prevailed in portions of the Middle Atlantic area and the Southcentral and Southwestern regions. In most other sections of the country weather conditions have been favorable for plant development and in most areas for bee activity. The clover flow in the northern States is rapidly diminishing and in most sections is practically completed. The buckwheat flow in New York and Pennsylvania is approaching its peak. While it is still too early to predict with any degree of accuracy the size of this year's crop it now looks like the crop for the country as a whole may be somewhat larger than last year, although it may be again below normal. Comb honey will apparently be very scarce in all parts of the country this season. In most sections of the country fall honey plants appear in favorable condition. Through the Central and southern Plains States heartsease is beginning to bloom and in the northern Appalachian Mountains goldenrod is blossoming. However, bees are working these plants very sparingly.

Extracting is general over the country. In most sections the quality of the crop is good, with many areas reporting better than normal quality especially for Clover honey. A large proportion of the honey now being extracted is moving locally, both to consumers and retailers. It appears that a larger than normal proportion of the early crop is moving directly to consumers in 60s. Labor shortages are retarding extracting operations among the larger commercial beekeepers and in some areas are hampering the movement of bees to new producing areas. Packers' representatives continue to scour the country for any large lots of honey available. Ceiling prices are being offered for all flavors and for all except the darkest grades.

Considerable beeswax is moving to market, with practically all bringing the ceiling of 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash, and 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period July 22-August 7)

Southern California. Weather over most of southern California was dry and hot with the result that the honey flow has been greatly reduced. Bees are now working bluecurls, turkey mullein, eucalyptus, lima beans, alfalfa, sweetclover, and toyon, but are obtaining little surplus. The buckwheat flow in Los Angeles and Kern Counties has ended. In some favored locations in San Diego County and also in the mountains further north white sage, wild buckwheat, and sumac are still yielding a little surplus, but in most areas these have dried up. There has been some movement of bees to central and northern California to the lima bean and star thistle areas. Demand for honey continued active with all available supplies moving in ton lots or more at the ceiling price of \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds, f.o.b. country points, regardless of flavor or color. Sales by beekeepers were fairly heavy during the first of August, with the following flavors being offered: Alfalfa, Clover-Alfalfa, Cotton-Alfalfa, Mesquite-Catsclaw, Buckwheat, Sage-Buckwheat, Sage, Mixed Flowers and Orange. Eastern demand for California and Arizona honey has been heavy, but carlot shipments have been light as a large percentage of the crop is being consumed locally. Offerings of beeswax were a little heavier, with all sales reported at the ceiling of 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash and 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. beekeepers.

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Central California. Temperatures during the first half of August ranged from below normal in the valleys to slightly above normal along the coast. Bees are in fairly good condition except in some localities where large numbers have been killed by cotton poisoning. Bees are working cotton, alfalfa, milkweed, spikeweed and some early bluecurls, but the surplus being stored at this time is rather light. In some sections butterflies are taking much of the nectar from alfalfa. Demand continued active for all grades and types of honey at the ceiling price of 12¢ per lb., f.o.b. country points, in ton lots or more. Delivery of honey to bottlers is still lagging, due in some cases to truck shortage and in other cases to delayed extracting operations on account of labor shortage. Some receivers are using their own trucks to hasten delivery in order to keep their plants operating.

Northern California. Weather conditions have been favorable in northern California. Bees are generally in normal or slightly better than normal condition. Plants are in good condition and yielding well. In some areas over crowding has cut colony yields. Movement to thistle and bean areas has been completed. Bees are working star thistle, lima bean, alfalfa, and minor sources. Indications point to a fairly good thistle flow. Considerable dark honey, mostly from carrot, is now being extracted. Demand for honey continues good. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, ton lots or more, per lb. extracted Extra White Clover and Extra Light Amber to Dark Mixed Flowers 12¢. A very little Star Thistle and Bluecurls honey has also moved at the same price.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period July 22-August 7)

West of Cascades. In general the weather has been favorable, although in some areas it has been unseasonably cool and cloudy. The fireweed flow is at its height and is producing heavily. Present indications are that this flow will last until the first of September or slightly later. Fireweed honey is of unusually good quality. The spring crop from vetch, vine maple, clover, and raspberry has largely been extracted. The average for this section was probably little more than half a crop, with many producers reporting a surplus of 25 to 50 pounds per colony. In the Rogue River Valley bees are working star thistle and obtaining some pasturage from clover and alfalfa. Most of the Clover-Vetch honey so far extracted has moved locally at the ceiling price of 12¢ per lb. in large lots; and 15¢ per lb. in single 60s to consumers.

East of Cascades. The weather has been favorable and bees gathered a surplus of 35 to 50 pounds from alfalfa and sweetclover during the last week of July and first week in August. Sweetclover has largely dried up and second crop alfalfa has been cut, so little surplus is being gathered at this time. Indications now point to a lighter than normal crop unless considerable additional honey is obtained from third cutting alfalfa. This, however, is an uncertainty as a crop from third cutting alfalfa is obtained only about once in five years. But little extracting has been done in this section, with most stock being sold direct to retailers or consumers at ceiling prices. Some sales of Alfalfa-Clover honey in ton lots or more were reported at 12¢ per lb., f.o.b.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period July 23-Aug. 8)

Except for eastern Colorado and the Milk River Valley of Montana, where fairly good yields are being reported, the crop for the Intermountain Section is running below last year's and for the district as a whole it now appears that the crop will be lighter than normal. Wyoming and parts of Montana have been dry. In other sections of the Intermountain region sufficient rain has fallen to maintain plants in fairly good condition. Extracting is becoming general in all sections. Local demand has been good and outside demand has continued heavy. However, few large lot sales to outside points have been reported. Sales, f.o.b. per lb., White Clover-Alfalfa single 60s 12-15¢, small pails 13½-18¢, mostly around 16-17¢. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers. Details by States follow:

Colorado. On the Western Slope humidity was considerably higher during this period than during the early part of the summer, with rain in some sections. This improved plant conditions, but in some localities limited the activity of bees. Generally speaking prospects on the Western Slope are much brighter than they were two weeks ago. Some beekeepers anticipate a crop as large or slightly larger than last year's, but probably lighter than average. In eastern Colorado

-continued -

conditions are spotted. In the southeastern part of the State it is still dry and yields to date are running behind last season. In the northeastern part of the State yields have been unusually good, with some localities reporting prospects for the biggest crop in several years. Swarming has practically ceased in all sections.

Wyoming. The weather continues hot and dry over practically the entire State. In southern Wyoming some honey is still being gathered, with plants still in condition to produce for some time if favorable weather continues. In the northern part of the State the flow from sweetclover and alfalfa slackened considerably during the past two weeks of July. Alfalfa weevil has been serious in many fields in the northern part of Wyoming, and prospects in this section indicate a crop far below normal.

Montana. Except in the Milk River Valley of northern Montana, present prospects point to a crop below normal. During the early portion of the flow cool weather prevented bees from working full time. During the last half of July the nectar flow increased but is slackening off in many sections. In the Milk River Valley some beekeepers expect a normal crop or slightly better. Even in this section some beekeepers are obtaining only a fair flow.

Idaho. Some extracting has been reported. Where bees had plenty of bloom and were not over-crowded they have done well, but the yield is spotted and the outlook for the State as a whole is somewhat below normal. A large portion of the second cutting alfalfa was harvested before it had a chance to bloom fully. Some sections have had a good flow from sweetclover.

Utah. Conditions throughout Utah have improved since the middle of July. The weather has been generally hot, but showers in most sections have maintained plants in fairly good condition. In a few districts rain is needed to prolong the flow. A good flow is reported in the Delta area, through nearly all of southern Utah and in central and northern Utah. General expectations are for a crop somewhat below last year's for the State as a whole. Many beekeepers are getting around 60 pounds from the first extracting, while others obtained only 30 to 40 pounds. In some of the irrigated sections arsenical poisoning is causing some losses.

Nevada. For the State as a whole the flow so far has been disappointing, with bees in some sections barely making a living. In some other districts bees have gathered as much as 60 pounds per colony. Second cutting alfalfa is now coming into bloom.

ARIZONA: (Period July 23-August 8)

The summer flow is pretty well over in most of Arizona. In the Yuma district the crop was reported to be light, due to the dry year on the desert and ploughing up of considerable acreages of alfalfa which were planted to flax. A little honey is coming in from tamarisk. In the Salt River Valley the early crop so far extracted has yielded fairly well, with some beekeepers reporting as high as 120 pounds per colony. Poisoning from cotton dusting has been serious in both the Salt River Valley and the Yuma district. Some beekeepers have had heavy losses, while others have avoided serious damage only by moving their bees from these districts. Sales f.o.b. per lb. Mesquite, carlots 12¢; Alfalfa and Alfalfa-Mesquite, case to ton lots 12¢; single 60s 12-13½¢. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period July 24-August 9)

Northeast Texas. Bees are in good condition but hot, dry weather has cut production to a crop probably little more than half that of a year ago. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted Cotton-single 60s 15¢, 1-lb. glass jars 21¢. Bulk comb. Cotton, in small pails 17½-18¢; in glass jars 20-21¢ per lb.

East Texas. Cotton dusting has been heavy during this period and considerable damage has been done to bees in some sections. Many apiaries have been moved to safer locations. Early inquiry and orders for package bees for 1944 delivery have been heavy. Sales, f.o.b., per lb. extracted, Mixed Flowers Light Amber, case to ton lots 11½¢; in small pails 19 1/5¢.

Southeast Texas. Eryngium (purple thistle) has yielded well. Many colonies have produced a 30 to 40 pound surplus from a short but heavy flow. Cotton has bloomed heavily, but bees have worked it very sparingly. Little dusting was done and bees seem safe so far. Fall honey plants are in fair condition but asters are very scarce.

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Rio Grande Valley. No rain has fallen in the Lower Rio Grande Valley in over two months, with daily temperatures reaching around 100 degrees. The summer flow has been very short. Queens have quit laying. Some losses from cotton poisoning have been reported throughout the Valley. Bees are generally in good condition with sufficient honey to last for three or four months. However, some fall honey will have to be gathered if winter feeding is to be averted. Probably 60 to 75 percent of the crop in this section has already moved to market. The balance is being held by producer packers for their established trade. Production of beeswax has increased. Sales, f.o.b., per lb., Citrus and Mixed Flowers single 60s to ton lots 12¢; in small pails 17¢, 1-lb. glass jars 21¢. Beeswax average color 41½¢ per lb., dark 40½¢ per lb., f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Southwest Texas. Weather continues hot and dry. Considerable loss from cotton poisoning has been reported. In some cotton areas which were not heavily dusted a surplus of 30 to 40 pounds per colony has been obtained. In some of the sandy land areas where peanuts, feed crops, and no cotton were planted bees apparently will make little more than winter stores. Sales, f.o.b., per lb. - Cotton-Mosquito-Horsenint Light Amber in single 60s to ton lots 12¢, small pails 16¢, 1-lb. glass jars 23¢.

West Texas. The honey crop to date has been fair, but rain is needed if a fall flow is to be obtained. Bees are in fairly good condition, but feeding will be necessary this fall unless a fall flow is obtained. The color of honey is lighter than last year. Sales, f.o.b., per lb. - White Brush in small pails 15-17¢. Beeswax 43½¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

New Mexico. In the Mesilla Valley the honey flow has been exceptionally good during the last three weeks. Prior to that time the surplus stored was rather light. In the middle Rio Grande Valley the honey flow is very spotted, running from fair in some sections to almost a complete failure in others. Sales f.o.b. per lb. in small pails 16 3/4¢.

Oklahoma. The Weather has been very hot and dry, cutting the flow short. Few beekeepers had their bees in good condition at the beginning of the flow so the crop will be below normal.

Arkansas. The summer honey flow has ended over most of Arkansas. Prospects for a fall flow from heartsease and aster depend entirely on rainfall in the near future. There has been no rain since June.

PLAINS AREA: (Period July 26-Aug. 10)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. Conditions continue quite favorable in the Red River Valley. Rainfall has been ample over most of the area. In some sections the sweetclover flow is over, but second crop alfalfa is still yielding. In other sections sweetclover is still yielding some. Fall honey plants are in good condition. Goldenrod and sow thistle are beginning to bloom, but bees are not working them yet. General indications are that for the region as a whole the crop will be a little lighter than last year. Extracting is becoming general, but most of the honey so far sold is moving locally. Sales f.o.b. per lb. - Clover, case to ton lots 11½¢ with cans returned; in single 60s 15¢; in small pails 18¢. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb., f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Iowa. Most reports indicate a below average crop for Iowa. Extracting is becoming general. Many yards are yielding a surplus of only 50 to 50 pounds, while occasional yards in favored locations have yielded as high as 100 pounds per colony. Frequent rains have kept honey plants in good condition in most sections of the State, but have kept bees from working a portion of the time and have resulted in considerable thin honey. Fall plants are generally in good condition and in some sections heartsease is beginning to yield, which will have the effect of blending the summer and fall flows into one. Only a few sales were reported, f.o.b., per lb. - Sweetclover Light Amber, in case to ton lots 12¢, in small pails 15¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Nebraska. A slow, steady flow continues from sweetclover, alfalfa, and miscellaneous native flowers, but yields so far have been extremely disappointing. The present outlook is for a crop below that of last year, which was also short. Recent rains have revived sweetclover bloom in eastern Nebraska, but it seems unlikely that there will be another heavy flow from this source. Some weak colonies and late packages have not yet stored a super of honey. Some stronger colonies have stored two supers and in a few cases a little more. Extracting has been light so far and no sales were reported.

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Kansas. The weather has been extremely hot during this period. The white sweetclover flow is finished and bees are now just about maintaining themselves. Many of the better yards are averaging around 100 pounds surplus per colony to date, while the average for the State as a whole is probably between 50 and 75 pounds. Prospects are good for a fall flow especially if good rains fall in the near future. Honey is moving very well at ceiling prices.

Missouri. The clover flow is about over, with some beekeepers reporting only about half a crop and others even less. Boneset and heartsease are coming in. The heartsease stand is especially good and prospects now look favorable.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period July 26-August 10)

Michigan. The crop now appears to be somewhat lighter than was earlier anticipated, although yields have been extremely variable, depending largely on the condition of the bees early in the season. Some colonies which had ample stores for last winter and spring and were able to build up early have stored as much as 200 pounds of surplus honey and in some cases more. On the other hand, a large majority of colonies which came through the winter in poor condition and built up slowly have obtained only 50 to 75 pounds of surplus honey. A few large beekeepers have contracted their crop at ceiling prices, but many others are selling locally. There is a strong tendency for beekeepers to put up their crop in small containers in order to obtain a higher price than if they sold in bulk. Sales f.o.b., per lb. extracted - Clover case to ton lots mostly 12¢, with a little high as 14½¢. Beeswax 43½¢ per lb. in trade.

Wisconsin. The clover flow is over in most sections. Buckwheat is beginning to bloom. Weather conditions continue favorable, with sufficient rainfall to maintain plants in fairly good condition. Average yields of around 100 pounds per colony are reported in good locations. Occasional beekeepers obtained somewhat higher yields, while many whose colonies were in weak condition early in the season are averaging little better than 50 pounds per colony. Extracting has become general and several large lot sales were reported. Sales f.o.b., per lb., Clover carlots and case to ton lots 12¢ per lb.; single 60s 13½-15¢ to consumers, in small pails 15-16¢, 1-lb. glass jars 18¢.

Minnesota. Over much of Minnesota sweetclover stopped yielding nectar around July 20. Since then bees have made little more than a living. Smartweed and heartsease have started to yield and conditions are favorable for a fairly good flow. The clover flow has been lighter than normal, with few colonies gathering more than 100 pounds surplus and the average considerably below this. Local demand for honey has been heavy and little moved to packers during this period. Considerable is moving in 60s direct to consumers. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted - Clover, case to ton lots mostly 12¢; single 60s 15¢; in small pails 19¢.

Ohio. The crop now looks short in all sections of Ohio. Few colonies are averaging over 40 or 50 pound and many have so far produced a surplus of only 15 to 20 pounds or less. The average for the State is possibly around 35 pounds. Present prospects from buckwheat are only fair. Most honey so far extracted has been sold directly to consumers. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted - White Clover carlots 12¢; in single 60s mostly 15¢; in small pails 13-20¢, mostly 20¢. Comb-White Clover No. 1, \$5.00-6.50, with some poor quality low as \$4.00.

Indiana. The early summer flow is largely over and extracting is becoming general over the State. It now appears that the 1943 crop will be below normal. Some beekeepers report only a quarter to half a crop, while others report yields running close to normal or around 100 pounds per colony. Heartsease is beginning to bloom, but is yielding very little nectar. A little first year alsike clover is also blooming. Comb honey is extremely scarce. Most beekeepers operated for extracted production this season. Also many small beekeepers who normally operate for comb honey either lost many of their bees or came through the winter and spring in such poor condition that they were able to gather little honey. Nearly all sales reported were directly to consumers. Sales f.o.b., per lb. - Clover, single 60s 13½-15¢ including some in consumers' containers, small pails 13-20¢, 1-lb. glass jars 20-22½¢.

Illinois. The clover flow has ended in most sections of the State. Yields in better yards run from 40 to 70 pounds per colony, while some colonies which were slow in getting started are averaging only around 25 pounds. The average for the State as a whole is below normal. In the lowlands heartsease is growing well and prospects appear favorable for a fall crop from this source. Sales f.o.

per lb.- extracted White Clover, case to ten lots 12¢; single 60s 15¢; small pails 15¢-16¢; 1-lb. glass jars 20¢.

Kentucky. In northeastern Kentucky only a scant honey flow is coming in from minor sources, but considerable pollen is being gathered. Plants are rapidly drying up as a result of a protracted drought. Prospects for a fall flow are now disappointing. In this section the crop is heavier than last season but still below normal. In western Kentucky a clover crop averaging 60 to 70 pounds per colony is being harvested. Dry weather is injuring fall plants, especially Spanish needle. Sales f.o.b., per lb., Mixed Flowers in small pails 20¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 22½¢.

NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period July 24-August 12)

New York. In western and central New York much of the clover crop has been extracted. Average yields range around 30 to 40 pounds of surplus Clover, with some colonies running as high as 75 and in exceptional cases higher. Buckwheat is beginning to yield in this section. Prospects are spotted. In some sections fairly good yields are being obtained, while in others the crop has been damaged by dry, hot weather. In any event the buckwheat crop for the State as a whole will be short due to a decreased acreage. In eastern and northeastern New York yields from the summer flow have been much better than in the western part of the State. Along the Hudson River reports of 100 pound yields are not uncommon, while in St. Lawrence County some yards have produced as high as 200 pounds surplus per colony. Buyers have been active through this section and several large lot sales were reported. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted - White Clover, case to ten lots 12-15¢; single 60s 15-16½¢, mostly 15¢; in small pails mostly 19¢; 1-lb. glass jars 20¢. Comb, per case- White Clover No. 1, \$6.00; No. 2, \$5.00. Beeswax 43½¢ per lb. in trade.

Vermont. Excessive rains during the first half of August practically stopped the honey flow in northern Vermont. In the Champlain Valley the crop is expected to be normal or better despite earlier losses of bees. Sales f.o.b. per lb.- extracted White Clover in 5-lb. pails 17¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 21 2/3¢. Comb- per case- Clover No. 1, \$5.50-6.00.

Connecticut. A fairly good flow from pepperbush and sumac is now on in the southeastern part of the State. The quality of the crop so far this season has been good, with no honeydew reported. Some good colonies have yielded as much as 100 pounds, but the average is far below this. Present outlook is for a favorable fall flow.

New Jersey. Bees have barely made a living in southern New Jersey. The southern part of the State has been rather dry but in the northern part rainfall has been ample to put fall plants in good condition.

Pennsylvania. A large portion of the clover crop in the buckwheat sections has been extracted. The yield from clover has depended on colony condition more than any other single factor. Colonies which were given proper attention have come through with a surplus of 100 pounds in many places, while neglected colonies have produced correspondingly less. Temperatures during most of July and early August have been high but sufficient rain has fallen to keep the buckwheat crop in good condition. Buckwheat is yielding fairly well, with two to eight pounds per day being stored. Strong colonies have one super fairly well filled. Goldenrod, which will soon be in bloom, and other fall flowers are in good condition. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted- White Clover case to ten lots 12-13¢, mostly 12¢; single 60s 15¢; small pails 18¢.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period July 24-August 12)

Maryland. A serious drought prevails over most of Maryland. Pastures are dried up and garden crops severely injured. However, at present aster plants and goldenrod are in good condition. Goldenrod is beginning to bloom. In western Maryland the buckwheat flow is on. Some beekeepers report the best flow in a number of years, while in other localities bees are scarcely working buckwheat. Considerable requeening and division of colonies has been done. Such increases will more than replace last winter and spring colony losses, but with such heavy division a good fall flow will be necessary for some colonies if winter feeding is to be avoided.

West Virginia. In western West Virginia a clover crop of 50 to 60 pounds per colony has been extracted. Sumac is yielding fairly well and it is expected will provide a surplus of possibly 25 to 30 pounds. Farther east in the State the main honey crop has been a near failure.

Virginia. In the mountainous sections of northern and western Virginia the crop has been almost a failure. In fact in northern Virginia it has been necessary to feed some colonies to avert starvation. In the vicinity of Richmond bees are holding their own, but have produced little or no surplus. Present prospects for a fall flow in these areas are now poor. Beeswax- Sales 41½¢ cash and 43½¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

South Carolina. The sourwood flow in the mountains has ended with not over a quarter to a third of a normal crop in most sections. Bees are now working cowpeas, cotton, and Lespedeza, but no surplus is expected from these sources.

SOUTHEASTERN STATES: (Period July 26-August 10)

Georgia. Colony and plant conditions are now unusually good in most sections of Georgia. Frequent rains have kept plants fresh and one of the best summer flows in several years is being obtained. Practically all early honey has been extracted and sold. Sales f.o.b. per lb., extracted- Mixed Flowers in small pails 16 3/4-17¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21-21½¢.

Florida. Frequent rains have kept plants in good condition in most sections of the State. Bees are working on cabbage palmetto and various late summer flowers. Some colonies have stored as much as 30 pound surplus from cabbage palmetto while others have merely built up on it. Prospects are now favorable for a good fall flow. Demand for honey continues to exceed the supply. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted- Mixed Flowers Light Amber to Amber in case to ton lots and barrels 12¢; in small pails 15¢; 1-lb. glass jars 16¢.

Alabama. Bees are making some gain from cotton and purslane and in some areas are beginning to work bitterweed. Recent showers in southern and central Alabama have interfered with activity of bees but have produced a good flow on fall honey plants. In western and northern Alabama additional moisture is necessary. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted- Clover ton lots 12¢.

Louisiana. Extracting is in full swing in order to make room for fall honey. Most colonies are gathering enough honey to maintain their weight. Fall honey plants are in good condition.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the middle of August. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: No arrivals reported. No supplies on market. No sales reported.

CHICAGO: Receipts by rail origin not specified 5 cars; by truck 144 lbs. Wis.

EXTRACTED: No offerings on the local market. No sales reported.

BEESWAX: Dealers paying for occasional lot 41½-43½¢ per lb. delivered

Chicago.

DENVER: Receipts Colo. extracted approximately 12,000 lbs.; comb 60 cases; beeswax 1,500 lbs.

EXTRACTED: Demand good, market steady. Sales to jobbers and direct to retail outlets- COLORADO, Alfalfa-White Sweetclover, glass, cases 12, 2-lb. \$4.70-4.76; 12, 5-lb. \$10.12-10.18; 24, 1-lb. \$5.04-5.10; 24, half pound \$2.77-2.80. Sales to retailers - COLORADO, Alfalfa-Sweetclover cases 6, 5-lb. \$5.75-6.00; 24, 1½-lb. \$7.25-7.30.

COMB: Demand good, market firm. COLORADO, fancy cases 24, cellophane wrapped 12-oz. frames \$5.40-5.50.

BEESWAX: Demand moderate, market steady. Dealers offering 41½¢ per lb. for domestic crude.

MINNEAPOLIS: No arrivals.

EXTRACTED: Supplies light. Demand very good, market firm at ceiling prices. Sales to wholesale grocers- MINNESOTA, Sweetclover, U. S. No. 1 blended 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.27; 16-oz. jars \$5.04; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.57; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$5.72. Sales to retail grocers- MINNESOTA, Sweetclover, 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.54; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.93; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$6.50.

COMB: No sales reported.

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NEW YORK: Arrivals: by rail origin not specified 11 cars, 81,000 lbs. Calif. 650 lbs. Fla. Supplies light, insufficient to meet demand, market at ceiling. Very few sales.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers, bakers and manufacturers- FLORIDA, White Tupelo 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. CALIFORNIA, Extra Light Amber Sage 17¢. IMPORTED: Practically all present sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling prices. Few sales imported, reprocessed 1500 lbs. or less 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 1500-20,000 lbs. 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 20,000 or more 14¢.

BEESWAX: Origin not specified 5,517 lbs. Supplies very light. Demand good, market firm. Sales by receivers port of entry- SOUTH AMERICA, WEST INDIES, and CUBA, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢; non-sun-bleachable 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Arrivals: by rail 2,400 lbs. Ohio. No offerings. No prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck, 7,751 lbs. bottled Midwestern. No offerings. No sales.

PORTLAND: Arrivals: 110 bbls. origin unknown; from Ore. via motor truck 38 cases 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. jars Mixed Flowers, 40, 60-lb. cans Sweetclover-Alfalfa. Supplies light. Demand exceeds supply. Most beekeepers selling direct to retailers-

EXTRACTED: OREGON, Mixed Flowers, 12, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. jars \$6.81; 12, 5-lb. jars \$12.52.

BEESWAX: Demand good. Dealers paying 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

ST. LOUIS: No offerings or trading reported.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND, AND ALAMEDA: Receipts via truck- Central California-511 cases Light Amber Alfalfa; 21 cases Light Amber Buckwheat; 360 cases Light Amber Carrot; 25 cases Light Amber Eucalyptus; 846 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers; 148 cases White to Water White Sage; from Southern California- 318 cases White to Water White Sage; from Northern California 1,071 cases White to Extra White Thistle; 132 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers; from Oregon- 108 cases Extra White Clover.

EXTRACTED: Bottlers using ceiling prices.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION DEFINITIONS AND

STANDARDS OF IDENTITY FOR BREAD

On July 29 the Food and Drug Administration issued definitions and standards of identity for various kinds of bread. This report says with reference to honey bread and honey rolls or honey buns - "The evidence does not establish a basis for definitions and standards of identity, which would be reasonable and promote honesty and fair dealing in the interest of consumers, for -

Creamed bread and creamed rolls or cream buns.

Butter bread and butter rolls or butter buns.

Egg bread and egg rolls or egg buns.

Butter and egg bread and butter and egg rolls or butter and egg buns.

Honey bread and honey rolls or honey buns.

Milk and honey bread and milk and honey rolls or milk and honey buns."

At meetings of Food and Drug officials and representatives of the baking industry held in Washington two years ago this summer scientists with the Food and Drug Administration proposed that honey bread, honey rolls and honey buns contain 16 parts of honey solids by weight to each 100 parts of flour, while proposals by the American Bakers' Association recommended four parts of honey solids. In view of the differences between the two proposals it is of interest to note that to date no definition or standard has been set up for these various breads containing honey as an ingredient.

August 19, 1943.

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WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
Food Distribution Administration

CURRENT

REGOR

SEP 17 1943

Telephone - REpublic 4142
Extension 2178

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Washington 25, D. C.
September 1, 1943.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - NO. 607

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

SUMMARY

For the country as a whole bees were relatively inactive during the latter part of August. The main summer flows have largely ended and the heavy fall flows have not yet begun except in the south. Present indications are for another short crop of honey with production running even below expectations of a month ago. Drought conditions have persisted in a large area of the Southwest and portions of the middle Atlantic and Southeastern States. Other sections of the country have mostly had sufficient showers to maintain honey plants in fairly good condition. In most sections of the country bees are in fairly good condition with good populations and ample brood.

Extracting of the main honey crop is general over the northern half of the country. Labor shortages are interfering with extracting operations especially among the larger commercial beekeepers. Many beekeepers with two hundred to three hundred colonies have had to handle their entire crop alone. In some sections truck shortage for delivery of honey has also been a problem.

An abnormal marketing situation still exists. A much larger than normal portion of the crop is being sold locally by beekeepers to consumers or retailers, either in single 60s or in small containers. In some sections the purchases of small pails and glass jars by beekeepers have been much heavier than in any previous season. Large packers continue to scour the country in order to obtain any available supplies, either on a current or contract basis. Most buyers are offering ceiling prices for bulk honey regardless of flavor and color on all except the very lowest grades. Beekeepers should beware of offers above ceiling levels, since sales or purchases of honey at prices higher than the maximums established by the Office of Price Administration makes both the buyer and seller liable to the penalties set up in Maximum Price Regulation 275.

Little beeswax is moving to market. Practically all sales are being reported at the ceiling of 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ cash and 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

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CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period Aug. 7-21)

Southern California. The weather was normal for this season over most of southern California. While plants are in generally good condition most of the summer plants have matured and no large amount of nectar is available. In some of the hill areas a little late buckwheat is still available. Bees are also obtaining some nectar and considerable pollen from eucalyptus, turkey mullein, wire weed, mustard, off season bloom citrus and alfalfa in those sections where the late crop has not been cut. Many bees are being moved to the blue curls areas where prospects are now quite favorable. Much of the summer crop has been extracted with surplus yields running all the way from 40-90 lbs. per colony. Demand for honey continued active with practically all sales reported at the ceiling of \$14.40 per case of 120 lbs., f.o.b. country points. Sales were reported on the following varieties - Alfalfa, Alfalfa-Cotton, Buckwheat, Clover-Alfalfa, Mesquite-Catsclaw, Orange, Sage, Sage-Buckwheat and Mixed Flowers. Eastern inquiry and demand has been heavy but carlot shipments have been comparatively light as a large proportion of the honey is still being consumed locally. Limited quantities of beeswax moved at the ceiling levels of 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ cash and 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ in trade, f.o.b. country points.

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IMPERIAL VALLEY: Extracting has been largely completed in the Imperial Valley and bees are ready for winter with ample stores. Tamarisk is yielding a little nectar and pollen for pasturage. Indications are that yields are about normal. Sales f.o.b. shipping points- Alfalfa mostly \$14.40 per case of 120 lbs.

Central California: Temperatures were generally moderate over central California during this period. In the cotton areas some bees have been lost as a result of crop dusting. In other areas a large proportion of the bees are in normal condition; although some are weak because of poor queens and European foulbrood. Some honey is being gathered from cotton, alfalfa, clover, lima beans, blue curls, jack clover and spikeweed. Plants are in normal or better than normal condition. Demand continues strong for all grades and types of honey. Receipts have increased although delivery to some bottlers is still lagging on account of truck shortage. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- extracted, Alfalfa, Lima Bean, Carrot, Cotton and Mixed Flowers in case to ton lots 12¢ per lb.

Northern California. The condition of most colonies in northern California is fairly good with generally strong populations, although a few colonies are weak. The star thistle yield has been rather disappointing and in some sections this source is drying up. Indications are for a thistle crop of from 15-40 pounds per colony depending on location, with the average for the section probably running not over 30 pounds. Some bees were being moved to blue curls districts around the first of September. Extracting of thistle honey is under way. Demand continues heavy for all varieties and grades of honey. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., in case to ton lots, Light Amber to Amber Thistle, Amber Carrot and Light Amber Mixed Flowers 12¢ with cans furnished, and 11½¢ with cans returned.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period Aug. 8-21)

West of Cascades. Temperatures continued moderate west of Cascades. Bees worked on fireweed, dandelion and Canadian thistle. Production is light except in the fireweed area where bees have been able to store about an average amount of honey. In the Coast Range the fireweed flow is late and the yield is expected to be light. East of this range the flow is finished and some operators are moving to higher altitudes in the hope of securing some additional benefit from late bloom. The honey market continues steady with supplies insufficient to meet the local demand. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Clover and Clover-Vetch, case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s 12-15¢, mostly 15¢; Mixed Flowers in small pails 19¢.

East of Cascades. The main flow is pretty well over in this area. Some honey is being gathered from third cutting alfalfa and early fall flowers but the surplus from these will be small. In some sections the crop is expected to run close to that of last season while in others it will run lighter. Most of the honey so far extracted is darker than normal but of good flavor and body. Bees are generally in good condition with ample brood and young bees. Only a small portion of the crop has been extracted with labor shortage interfering with the operations of some of the larger commercial apiarists.. Much of the crop is moving locally. Sales f.o.b. per lb.- Extracted Clover-Alfalfa in case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s 15¢; in small pails 19-19½¢.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period Aug. 8-23.)

For this region as a whole a large part of the honey crop for this year has been gathered. Except in Eastern Colorado, Southeastern and Northwestern Wyoming, and to Milk River Valley of Montana the crop will be short of both last year's and a normal production. In Idaho much of the honey carries a high percentage of honeydew. The crop in Nevada is almost a failure. Extracting is in full swing in nearly all States. Demand has been extremely good, especially on the part of large buyers, but a large percentage of the crop so far extracted is moving locally to consumers and retailers in single 60s and small containers. Practically all buyers are offering the ceiling regardless of flavor or color. Sales f.o.b. per lb. - Clover-Alfalfa extracted case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s 12-15¢; in small pails 18-18.3¢, and in glass jars 20¢. Comb- Per case average good quality \$5.00. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb., f.o.b. to beekeepers.

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Colorado. On the Western Slope rain during much of this period prevented bees from working full time with the result that very little honey was gathered. In some sections of the Western Slope it looks like the flow is about over for this season. In general the crop on the Western Slope is short with many beekeepers reporting not over 1/2 of a normal production. In the Eastern part of the state conditions have been more favorable. Considerable honey is still being gathered especially from third crop alfalfa. In some sections the best crop in a number of years is being gathered with a number of beekeepers reporting an average colony surplus to date of around 100 pounds or better.

Wyoming. Warm dry weather continues over most of Wyoming. Crop conditions are extremely spotted. In the Southeastern and Northwestern portions of the State the crop is expected to approach that of last year with some beekeepers expecting a little more honey than they obtained last season. On the other hand in Central Wyoming, where bees were in poor condition at the beginning of the season and the season has been extremely dry, the crop is short and many colonies of bees are in poor condition. Except for some third cutting alfalfa in some sections and scattered fall flowers the flow is about over in Wyoming.

Montana. In most sections of Montana the honey flow has apparently ended for this season and extracting is in full swing. Crop prospects are extremely spotted. In the Milk River Valley of Northern Montana close to an average crop is expected with some beekeepers reporting better than average yields. West of the Continental Divide the crop is extremely short and will probably average not more than 35 to 40 lbs. per colony. In the balance of the state some beekeepers report good yields while others only few miles away have extremely low yields. In general the quality of the honey is better than normal with a heavy body. In fact some beekeepers report the honey so heavy that it is difficult to handle.

Idaho. The honey crop in Idaho is proving lighter than was earlier expected and the color in most sections is below normal. In some districts bees built up during July on a flow of honeydew which has produced some of the darkest and poorest honey obtained in this section in many years. In some yards it now looks as if half the crop will be honeydew unless there is a very favorable late flow of white honey. Considerable extracting is being done but many beekeepers have not yet sold any large portion of their crop.

Utah. In northern Utah extracting is in full swing and some beekeepers have completed this operation. In this section it now looks like the crop will run a little better than 50 percent of the 1942 crop and around 75 percent of normal. Much of the honey is dark but well flavored. Bees are quiet and are apparently obtaining sufficient pasturage for current needs.

Nevada. The honey crop for Nevada has been the poorest in many years with slight prospects for much of a surplus. The first crop of alfalfa was almost a failure. The second crop was cut early in order to alleviate the hay shortage. This resulted in a very short period in which the bees could work.

ARIZONA: (Period Aug. 8-23)

In the southwestern section of the state bees and honey plants are now in good condition with prospects of a fair fall flow. Some beekeepers indicate they will extract much of this fall flow while others will divide their colonies and use the fall flow for increase. In the Salt River Valley heavy rains during the first few days of August, which in some sections reached flood proportions, cut the honey flow short. In this section and also in the Yuma section recent losses from cotton dusting have been heavy. Reports indicate that several thousand colonies have already been lost. Sales f.o.b., per lb. extracted Mixed Flowers, in case to ton lots and single 60s 12¢, with some high as 13.1¢; in small pails 15¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 17½¢. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb., f.o.b. to beekeepers.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period Aug. 9-24.)

Northeast Texas. Yields in this section are extremely variable. Some beekeepers who have completed extracting report an average surplus of 100-125 pounds, while others have had only around 50 pounds. For the section as a whole the crop may average close to normal. Bees are now working cotton but drought in recent weeks has damaged this crop somewhat. Prospects are rather poor for a fall honey flow unless considerable rain falls in the near future. Normally some fall

flow can be expected from broom weed, boneset, asters, and goldenrod. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted Clover in small pails 17¢; Mixed Wild Flowers in small pails 20.2¢ per lb., retail.

East Texas. This section has been very dry with only sufficient honey coming in to stimulate brood rearing. Many colonies used for late package shipment do not yet have sufficient stores for winter and early spring. Demand for packages and queens for 1944 delivery is already heavy.

Southeast Texas. Strong colonies are storing considerable honey from milkweed but some colonies are not strong enough to take advantage of this flow. There has been a shortage of pollen for several weeks and some hives have very little brood. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted Mixed Flowers single 60s to ton lots 11½¢.

Southwest Texas. The weather continues extremely dry and bees are obtaining little nectar except in irrigated sections. Some queens have stopped laying entirely. Demand for honey continues strong and much of the crop so far produced has been sold. Sales f.o.b., per lb. extracted in single 60s 12¢; in small pails 17¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 22¢.

New Mexico. Present indications are for a short crop in northern New Mexico and in the middle Rio Grande Valley. Honey and beeswax are both moving at ceiling levels.

Arkansas. With no rain since the middle of June plants have largely dried up over Arkansas and there now seems little chance for a fall flow unless rains come soon. A fair crop was produced from buckwheat vine where this plant was available. Sales f.o.b. extracted Mixed Flowers in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢ each.

PLAINS AREA: (Period Aug. 10-26)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. The flow in the Red River Valley was cut short by rains early in August. Since that time the weather has been cool and rainy and in most sections bees have obtained little more than current needs. Extracting is in full swing with many yields being reported at from 50-75 pounds of surplus honey, averaging around 55-60 pounds, with some running as low as 28-30 pounds per colony. Bees are gathering some nectar from goldenrod, sow thistle and other fall flowers. Smart weed in some sections is producing better than it has for a number of years, but due to the high percentage of cool rainy days little surplus has been stored from this source. Demand continues good with buyers actively trying to contract all available lots at ceiling prices. Sales f.o.b., per lb., Clover in single 60s 15¢; in small pails 18½-19¢; 3-lb. glass jars 19¢ per lb.

South Dakota. Grasshoppers and drought stopped the honey flow in western South Dakota around the middle of July. In this section bees will average a little over 40 pounds surplus per colony. In the balance of the State the crop has been lighter than normal, largely due to the fact that bees built up too late to take advantage of the early flow. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted, Sweet-clover, case to ton lots 11½-12¢; in single 60s 15¢. One large lot small containers was reported at ceiling levels. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Iowa. Except for a narrow strip in western Iowa along the Missouri river, where it has been very dry, most portions of Iowa have had considerable rainfall during this period which has interfered with the activities of bees and cut the honey flow. Heartsease and goldenrod are producing. A little nectar is being obtained from Huban clover and now seeding white and alsike clovers. Extracting is largely under way. It looks like the state as a whole will have little better than 50% of a crop. Many beekeepers are reporting yields of 50 pounds or less, although an occasional well located beekeeper reports a fairly good crop. Much of the honey extracted so far is moving locally in 60s or small containers. Buyers have been active in attempts to buy at ceiling levels. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted, Clover, case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s 15¢; in small pails 15-18¢.

Nebraska. Most of August has been extremely hot and dry, causing some injury to fall flowers. In general the crop is short of last year's, in some cases being not more than 50% of normal. On the other hand some individual beekeepers in good locations have already extracted a surplus of 100 pounds per colony with expectations of obtaining some additional late honey. Most clover honey so far extracted has been of light color and good heavy body. Sales f.o.b.

per lb., extracted, case to ton lots mostly 12¢; in single 60s 12½-15¢; in small pails 16¢. Beeswax 43½¢ per lb., in trade, f.o.b. beekeepers.

Kansas. Hot dry weather persists over most of the state although some sections have had sufficient rainfall during the latter part of August to materially benefit fall plants. Crop prospects appear generally good with a number of beekeepers reporting a surplus of 100 pounds or more already extracted. Local demand continues good with most honey moving in single 60s or consumer packages. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted Clover and Basswood in single 60s mostly 15¢.

Missouri. The crop is extremely spotted in Missouri. Some beekeepers report little or no surplus while others have already extracted as much as 100 pounds per colony and expect to obtain some additional surplus. The weather has been favorable for the heartsease flow and prospects now appear fairly good for a fall flow.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period Aug. 10-26)

Michigan. On the Northern Peninsula extracting of the white clover crop is under way. This honey is very heavy and white. Bees are gathering some fall honey from goldenrod and aster. The weather has been cool so bees have been rather inactive. Comb honey turned out poorly in this section. On the Lower Peninsula the yield so far has been disappointing. Extracting of the white honey crop is well under way. While some beekeepers report very good yields, indications are that the crop for the state as a whole will not average over 60 pounds per colony. The main honey flow in June was short and came at a time when many colonies were not at gathering strength. The present flow from alfalfa is light. Bees are working goldenrod and other fall flowers but it is too early to predict the yield from these sources. Demand continues active with numerous buyers offering ceiling prices. Movement of small containers to beekeepers has been heavy indicating that much of the crop will be packed in this manner. Labor shortage has been serious among larger beekeepers and has interfered with extracting operations. Some 200 to 300 colony beekeepers have been obliged to handle their entire crop without help. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted, Clover in case to ton lots mostly 12¢ with some high as 14½¢; in single 60s mostly 15¢; in small pails 16¢. Comb very few sales No. 1 White Clover \$6.00 per case. Beeswax 43½¢ per lb., in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Wisconsin. The clover honey crop in Wisconsin is turning out fairly well. Some beekeepers who are well along in their extracting operations report a surplus of 100 to 150 pounds with some running higher than this. On the other hand some individual beekeepers report a surplus of only 40 or 50 lbs. For the state as a whole it now looks like the clover crop will be about normal or around 100 lbs. per colony. The quality of the clover crop is good. Buckwheat is yielding well and some nectar is being obtained from alfalfa and late clovers. Goldenrod is just beginning to bloom. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted Clover and Clover-Raspberry, case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s 13½-15¢, mostly 15¢; in small pails 15-19¢ with some large retail lots at 20¢. Comb White Clover average quality \$4.80 per case.

Minnesota. The crop in Minnesota is short with estimates running from 50-75¢ of the yield of last year. Rains during much of the summer maintained plants in good condition but the nectar yield was light. In some areas only 25-50 pounds per colony have been produced so far. Heartsease and goldenrod are beginning to bloom. Spanish needle is plentiful and budding well. In most sections aster plants are rather scarce. Taken as a whole prospects for a fall flow are only fair. Demand continued active with a very large percentage of the crop moving directly to the consumers and retailers at ceiling levels. Sales f.o.b., per lb. extracted Clover, car lots and case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s 15¢; in small pails 19-20¢.

Ohio. The clover crop in Ohio has been extremely short with the average for the state probably between 30-35 pounds per colony. In some yards bees have not yet made winter stores and unless considerable fall honey is obtained feeding will be necessary to carry them. Most of the clover honey so far extracted has been of good color and flavor but rather light bodied. Goldenrod is just beginning to yield and the condition of most fall honey plants is now fairly good. Demand has been sufficiently heavy to absorb all the honey as fast as it has been extracted. Much of the crop has moved directly to the consumers. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted White Clover in case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s mostly 15¢, with a few sales as low as 12¢; in small pails 20-22¢ mostly 20¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 22¢. Comb- White Clover No. 1, \$5.00 per case.

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Indiana. Prospects for the honey crop in Indiana are not as favorable as previously anticipated. Several beekeepers have reported a surplus so far of around 50 pounds per colony with occasional reports as high as 100 pounds. Heartsease is plentiful and blooming heavily but bees appear to be gathering little honey from it. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted White Clover, single 60s 13½-15¢; mostly 14-15¢; in small pails 17½-19¢; in glass jars 20-22¢.

Illinois. Weather conditions are extremely variable in Illinois. In some sections plants are suffering from dry weather while in others rainfall has been sufficient to maintain them in good condition. The yield from clover has been only 25-50% of normal with colony yields being reported all the way from 10 to 60 pounds, running higher than this only in exceptional cases. Heartsease is beginning to produce and in those sections where rainfall has been ample fall honey plants are in good condition with favorable prospects for a fall flow. In general bees are in good condition. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted, Clover, in case to ten lots 12¢; in single 60s 15¢; in small pails 15¢; 1-lb. glass jars 20¢.

Kentucky. Drought and hot weather have dried up nearly all present sources of nectar in both eastern and western Kentucky. Present prospects are discouraging for any large flow from goldenrod and aster. No honey sales were reported but beeswax moved in fairly large lots at 41½¢ cash, and 43½¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period August 12-27)

New York. Over much of the buckwheat area cool cloudy weather during the latter part of August has reduced the flow to somewhat below normal for this date, although some individual beekeepers report a fairly good production from buckwheat. In the eastern and central part of the state the size of the clover crop was below normal, running 40-60 pounds per colony, with some yards reporting yields above and below these figures. In eastern and northeastern New York generally good yields were obtained. The quality of the clover crop is good both from the standpoint of color and body. Demand for honey has been good with fairly large quantities moving, mostly at ceiling levels. Sales f.o.b. per lb., extracted, Clover, carlots 12¢; case to ten lots 12¢, with occasional high as 15¢; in single 60s 15¢; in small pails 15-19¢; in glass jars 20-23¢, mostly 20¢; Buckwheat, case to ten lots mostly 12¢, few high as 15¢; in single 60s mostly 15¢, few 16¢. Comb: White Clover Extra Fancy \$7.00, Mixed No. 1 and No. 2, \$4.80 per case; Buckwheat extra Fancy \$6.50.

Vermont. The weather has continued wet and changeable in northern Vermont making it difficult to take off honey. On favorable days bees continue to gather small amounts of nectar. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted, Clover in small pails 17¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢.

New Jersey. Much of New Jersey has been very dry during this period. Strong colonies have been making a living on goldenrod but so far no surplus fall honey has been stored.

Connecticut. Fall prospects are fairly good. A large portion of the summer crop has been extracted and indications are that the early crop will average around 50 pounds per colony.

Pennsylvania. Dry weather prevailed over most of the state although rains in some sections of central Pennsylvania improved goldenrod and fall flowers. The buckwheat flow is largely over with the yield from this source rather disappointing. Goldenrod and other fall flowers are yielding a little nectar but to date no surplus has been built up from these. A very large proportion of the Pennsylvania crop so far extracted has moved locally to consumers and retailers. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted, Clover in single 60s 15¢; in small pails 18¢.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period August 12-27)

Maryland. Drought and high temperatures continued throughout the latter part of August. The fall honey flow should get under way early in September but prospects are rather slight for a heavy fall flow unless good soaking rains come in time to improve goldenrod and asters. Bees are in generally good condition but unless considerable fall honey is obtained some feeding will be necessary.

West Virginia. Reports from western West Virginia indicate fairly good prospects for a good fall aster flow.

Virginia. In the Tidewater section the fall honey flow is on with bees working sumac and smartweed. Goldenrod is opening and prospects are fairly good provided weather continues favorable. Extracting will begin in this area around the middle of September. No sales were reported but beeswax moved at the ceiling of 41½¢ cash, and 43½¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

North Carolina. Practically all of this year's honey crop from Eastern North Carolina moved to market. The flow in the Piedmont and Mountain sections of western North Carolina has been almost a failure, while in the eastern part of the state the crop was probably 50% of normal. Sales f.o.b., per lb., bulk comb- Light Amber Mixed Flowers in small pails 17¢; in 1-quart jars 19¢.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period 10-26)

Georgia. Over most of the state bees and plants are in fairly good condition with sufficient rain to maintain some flow from Mexican clover and purslane. On the other hand some localities have been dry and bees have barely made a living. Some colonies which were used for late package and queen shipments have not yet built up satisfactorily. Considerable re-queening is being done and some queen raisers report they have had the best summer queen trade in years, being practically booked to capacity through September. Very little honey is available in this section and no sales were reported.

Florida. A fairly good flow is on at this time. Cabbage palmetto is producing well and strong colonies are building up well and making considerable surplus on this. In the northern part of the state fall flowers are yielding fairly well. The black mangrove crop was good with yields running from 50 to 100 pounds per colony in favorable locations. Quality of the mangrove honey was good. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted Mangrove and Mixed Flowers, in barrels and 60s to ton lots 12¢; in small pails 16¢; in glass jars 17¢.

Alabama. The honey flow has been light during the latter part of August due to the extremely hot, dry weather. Bees have been working on purslane in the south and bitterweed in the north but making little surplus. Due to good moisture conditions early in the season fall honey plants now look favorable for a later flow.

Mississippi. General drought conditions prevailed over the state. A few lots of Light Amber extracted Vetch honey in 12-lb. glass jars retailed \$2.00 per jar; with bulk comb Mixed Flowers in the same size jar also around \$2.00. Some of the bulk comb honey seen on the market has been very unattractively packed.

Louisiana. While bees are obtaining little nectar at present, prospects for a good fall flow in Southern Louisiana are excellent. Partridge pea is beginning to bloom and will soon furnish considerable pollen. Extracting is progressing rapidly but few sales are being made. Some extracted Mixed Flower honey is moving in large lots at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb. f.o.b.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the last of August. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON:

EXTRACTED: 2 cars Iowa arrived. Supplies very light. Demand moderate, market strong. Delivered sales to large retailers - IOWA, Sweetclover, Light Amber, 1-lb. jars \$3.02 per doz.

COMB: No supplies on market.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by truck 1,680 lbs. Ill., 4,800 lbs. Minn.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand far exceeds available supply, market firm. ILLINOIS, 5-lb. pails White Clover, few available lots 85-95¢.

COMB: No supplies.

BEESWAX: Dealers paying for occasional available lots 41½-43½¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

DENVER: Receipts: Colo. extracted approx. 45,000 lbs.; comb 40 cases.

EXTRACTED: Demand good, market steady. Sales to jobbers and direct to large retail outlets - COLORADO, Alfalfa White Sweetclover, White to Water White, glass cases 12, 5-lb. \$10.12-10.18; 12, 2-lb. jars \$4.70-4.76; cases 25, 1-lb. \$5.04-5.10, cases 24, half pounds \$2.77-2.80.

COMB: COLORADO, Fancy cellophane wrapped 12 oz. \$5.75.

BEESWAX: Receipts approx. 1,000 lbs. Demand moderate, market steady. Domestic crude 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, 254, 60-lb. cans Minn. White Mixed Clovers, 280 lbs. beeswax. Comb, no arrivals.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand very good, market firm at ceiling prices. Sales f.o.b. beekeepers, per lb. to bottlers - U. S. No. 1, Light Amber to White, cash 12¢, cans returned 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Amber cash 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, cans returned 11¢, other than U. S. No. 1 prices accordingly. Sales to wholesale grocers - U. S. No. 1, blended honey 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.27, 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.40; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.57; 12, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. jars \$5.72. Sales to retail grocers - 24, 6-oz. jars \$3.54; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.93; 12, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. jars \$6.50.

COMB: No sales reported.

BEESWAX: Supplies very light. Demand good, market firm. Sales f.o.b. beekeepers - Domestic crude Light Yellow cash 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, in trade 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: by rail, 6 cars origin not specified, 2 cars Calif., 67 lbs. Ga. Supplies light. Demand exceeds supply, market at ceiling, very few sales.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers, bakers and manufacturers - No domestic sales reported. IMPORTED: Practically all present sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling prices. Few sales IMPORTED, reprocessed, 1500 lbs. or less 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 1500-20,000 lbs. 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 20,000 or more 14-14 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

BEESWAX: Supplies light. Demand good, far exceeds supply, market firm at ceiling. Sales by receivers port of entry - SOUTH AMERICA, WEST INDIES and CUBA, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢, non-sun-bleachable 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Arrivals: by rail, 24,000 lbs. Ohio; by truck 5,040 lbs. via N.Y. origin not specified destined to chain stores.

HONEY: No offerings. No prices available.

BEESWAX: No offerings. No prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck, extracted 9,960 lbs. bottled midwestern. Demand good but brokers unable to obtain supplies. No sales reported.

PORTLAND:

EXTRACTED: Arrivals via motor truck - from Oregon 475, 60-lb. cans Clover-Vetch; from Idaho 660 cases 12, 5-lb. cans and 800 cases 1-lb. glass jars. Supplies light. Demand good, market steady. Sales to retailers or other large buyers in case lots - OREGON, Clover-Vetch and IDAHO, Sweetclover- Alfalfa 12, 5-lb. cans \$10.52-10.58, 24, 1-lb. glass jars \$5.89-6.13; OREGON, bulk, 6-lb. cans 15¢ per lb.

COMB: No supplies.

BEESWAX: Demand good, market unchanged at ceiling.

ST. LOUIS: No offerings or trading reported.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND, AND ALAMEDA: Receipts at Bay cities via truck - Southern California, 200 cases White to Extra White Sage; Central California, 1060 cases Light to Extra Light Amber Alfalfa, 190 cases White to Extra White Lima Bean; 194 cases Amber Carrot; 70 cases White to Extra White Cotton; 515 cases Light to Extra Light Amber Mixed Flowers; Northern California, 1,166 cases White Thistle, 144 cases Amber Carrot; 40 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers; Oregon, 88 cases Extra White Clover; Central America, 19,000 lbs. Light Amber Mixed Flowers - 13¢ delivered San Francisco dock.

BEESWAX: 842 lbs. received at San Francisco via truck from Central California at ceiling price 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ f.o.b.

SUPPLEMENTAL SUGAR ALLOWANCE FOR FEEDING BEES - WAR BOARD MEMORANDUM 412. A recent amendment to Rationing Order No. 3 of the Office of Price Administration establishes procedures by which beekeepers may obtain an additional provisional allowance of sugar--not to exceed 15 pounds per colony of bees per calendar year--for the feeding of bees. Applications for such additional allowance shall be made to the OPA Rationing Board on OPA Form R-315, and shall state (1) the amount of the additional provisional allowance requested, (2) the number of colonies of bees for which the allowance is requested, (3) that the beekeeper has obtained and used the allowance already provided for the feeding of bees and, (4) that the additional sugar is required to prevent loss of bees. The amendment provides that such applications must contain the certification of the local USDA War Board that the additional sugar requested is required in order to prevent loss of bees. State War Board chairmen are requested to issue to county War Boards appropriate instructions for the handling of this matter.

WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
Food Distribution Administration

Telephone - REpublic 4142
Extension 2178.

Washington 25, D. C.
September 15, 1943.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - NO. 608

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

SUMMARY

Reports to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics as of August 20, 1943 indicate the honey crop for 1943 will be slightly over 191 million pounds. Allowance for the expected late summer and fall honey flow is included in this estimate. Although the present indicated crop is about eight percent larger than the poor crop of 1942, it is about thirteen percent less than the record large crop in 1941 when the number of colonies of bees was about nine percent less than this year. The number of colonies this year is estimated at 4,901,000, or about the same as last year. Efforts to increase the number of producing units failed due to the poor crop last year which resulted in heavy winter losses. The wet late spring this year was unfavorable for broodrearing and prevented colonies from building up to normal strength before the main nectar flows. Of this year's estimated total honey crop about 76 million pounds or 40 percent will be produced in the North Central States, about 60 million pounds or 31 percent in the far West, 37 million pounds or 20 percent in the South, and about 17½ million pounds or 9 percent in the North Atlantic States. Production is larger than last year in the North Atlantic, East North Central, South Central and far Western States, but smaller in the West North Central and South Atlantic. Crop figures by States are shown on page 9.

In most of the areas which suffered from drought during July and August sufficient rain fell during early September to relieve the extreme drought conditions, although in some areas the rains came too late to benefit fall plants greatly. The main summer flows are practically over in all sections. Cool weather during the last week in August cut short the buckwheat flow in Pennsylvania and New York. Some beekeepers in the buckwheat area report yields close to normal, but the buckwheat crop as a whole will be short. Little surplus is now being stored in any section. Cool, damp weather in many sections during early September has retarded bee activity. In the Northeastern States goldenrod and heartsease are beginning to produce. In some of these sections asters will soon be blooming. In nearly all parts of the country colonies are in strong condition with good populations and ample brood. In most sections stores are sufficient, but in a few areas, mostly in the South, considerable additional fall honey will have to be gathered if winter feeding is to be averted.

Extracting is underway in all sections. Labor shortages continue to be a retarding factor especially among the larger commercial beekeepers. Demand for honey continues in excess of available supplies. Packers are experiencing extreme difficulty in obtaining sufficient honey to carry them through a normal season's operations. An increasingly large proportion of the crop is being sold locally by beekeepers to consumers or retailers. In general ceiling prices prevail for all honey without much regard to flavor, color or grade, although in some cases extremely dark or low-grade honey is being discounted slightly. Moderate quantities of beeswax continue to move to market in most sections at ceiling prices.

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period August 21-Sept. 7)

Southern California. Temperatures have been generally mild, with considerable high fog or overcast skies until mid-morning. The honey flow is largely over for this season except in a few limited areas where blue curls are available. Considerable pollen and a little pasturage is being obtained from fall weeds, rabbit brush, eucalyptus, a little scattered orange bloom, and a few early mustard patches. Demand for honey continues good, especially on the part of packers. Increased sugar quotas have apparently caused a little slackening in demand by the baking trade. Sales f.o.b. in ten lots or more, Southern

California points - extracted Orange-Sage, Sage-Buckwheat, Alfalfa, and Clover-Alfalfa \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds. Beeswax offerings have increased slightly with sales at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash, and 43½¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. country points.

Imperial Valley. The weather continues normal in the Imperial Valley. Extracting has been largely completed and most bees placed on their winter stands. Practically all Alfalfa honey has been sold at the f.o.b. ceiling of \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds, in ton lots or more.

Central California. Normal, moderate temperatures prevailed over most of Central California. Plant conditions are about normal, with practically all fall plants yielding considerable nectar. Bees are now working spikeweed, cotton, blue curls, and sunflowers in the valley and low mountain areas. In the high Sierras bees are obtaining nectar and pollen from snowbrush and pin oak, and honeydew from fir. In the cotton areas many colonies were lost from cotton poisoning. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted Alfalfa, Lima Bean, Lima Bean-Cotton-Blue Curls, Buckwheat, Orange, Sage, and Mixed Flowers 12¢. Beeswax moved well at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb., f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Northern California. Moderate temperatures have prevailed in northern California. Wind has dried up many nectar-producing plants prematurely. The star thistle flow is about over. Some bees are being moved to blue curls areas. Some pollen and nectar are being obtained from lima beans, alfalfa, and spikeweed. Yields in this section will be light, with many beekeepers reporting an average yield of only 25 to 40 pounds per colony. Buyers have been active, taking practically all honey at ceiling levels without much regard to grade or color. Sales f.o.b. shipping point per lb. - Clover, Thistle, Alfalfa, and Mixed Flowers 12¢, some capping honey has also moved at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period Aug. 21-Sept. 7)

West of Cascades. Temperatures were moderate along the coast, with bees getting little honey from any source. The fireweed flow is about over. Yields from fireweed were very spotted, with a large number of beekeepers reporting yields ranging from 10 to 40 pounds with an average of not much over 20 pounds from this source. On the other hand, in a few favored locations in the foothills of the Cascade Mountains yields in excess of 100 pounds per colony have been reported. In parts of western Washington considerable pollen is being gathered from dandelion. Many beekeepers have already sold their honey and indications are that honey stocks will clean up early. Sales f.o.b. shipping point per lb. Fireweed-Clover case to ton lots 12¢.

East of Cascades. Temperatures were normal east of the Cascades and bees have made a living from sweetclover and alfalfa. Sweetclover is about dried up and third cutting alfalfa is yielding very lightly. It now looks like the crop will be a little lighter than normal but will be heavier than last year. Quality and color are good. Sales f.o.b. shipping point per lb. - extracted Sweetclover-Alfalfa in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 19-19 1/3¢.

INTERMOUNTAIN SECTION: (Period Aug. 23-Sept. 8)

The honey gathering season over most of the Intermountain Region has been brought to a close by cooler weather. In a few sections of Colorado and Wyoming a little third crop alfalfa and fall flower honey may be gathered. With the exception of eastern Colorado and a few districts in Wyoming and Montana, the crop for this section will be considerably lighter than either last year or normal. Except in Idaho where considerable dark honey was produced the quality of the crop is generally good. For the section as a whole the condition of colonies is favorable, with heavy populations and brood and in most cases with ample stores for winter. The demand for honey continues heavy with most sales being reported at the ceiling. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted Clover-Alfalfa-carlots 12¢ with cans included, and 11½¢ with cans returned; case to ton lots mostly 12¢, with a little as high as 14¢; in single 60s mostly 15¢, with some as low as 14 1/6¢ in buyers' containers; in small pails 18-19½¢, mostly around 18¢. Comb, Clover-Alfalfa Extra White Fancy \$6.00 per case. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. beekeepers. Details by States follow:

Colorado. On the Western Slope rain during much of late August cut yields in most sections due to colonies which were heavy in brood consuming more honey than was stored during that period. Weather conditions are now more favorable and there is a possibility that some additional honey may be stored

this fall. In any event, most beekeepers on the Western Slope will have a crop somewhat below normal, although an occasional beekeeper reports yields of normal or slightly better than normal. In northeastern Colorado this season has been very favorable and present prospects are for an average crop of somewhat in excess of 100 pounds per colony. In this section some nectar is still being gathered from third crop alfalfa. Colonies are in good condition both as to populations and stores.

Wyoming. The weather in Wyoming has turned considerably cooler, with some showers, although the rain came too late to be of much benefit to honey plants. In the Big Horn Basin and in the vicinity of Wheatland fairly good yields have been reported. In the Lander Valley the crop is reported to be short. Extracting is actively under way. Some large beekeepers are experiencing difficulty in finding sufficient labor to take off and extract the honey crop. Bees are in generally good condition, with ample stores.

Montana. In the Milk River Valley a heavy frost on September 8 ended the flow. Production in this section has, however, been very favorable. West of the Continental Divide cool weather has cut the flow recently. Production in this section has been considerably below normal because of the cool, damp spring and summer season. Apparently yields in this section will run around 40-50 pounds per colony.

Idaho. Light frosts and cool winds throughout the Snake River Valley have practically ended the honey flow for this season. Yields are very spotted with the crop for the State as a whole considerably below last season and also below normal. Some beekeepers are reporting yields as low as 20 pounds, some averaged as high as 60, and only occasional producers have had yields much in excess of 60 pounds per colony. Much of the early honey flow is dark, but of good flavor. In most sections the latter half of the flow is of good light color. Colonies are in good condition and should go into winter in good shape unless beekeepers are tempted to extract too closely.

Utah. Dry weather with cold nights and frost in the higher valleys has practically ended the honey flow over much of Utah. For the State as a whole it looks like the commercial crop will run little more than one half of that of last year and also one half of normal. Many beekeepers report yields of 30-60 pounds per colony, probably averaging around 40-45 pounds for the State as a whole.

Nevada. Due to an adverse season throughout the spring and summer with the early cutting of the alfalfa hay crop, the honey crop will probably not average over 30 pounds per colony for the State as a whole.

ARIZONA: (Period Aug. 23-Sept. 8)

In southeastern Arizona bees are generally in good condition. Much of the honey now being extracted is somewhat off flavor due to the large quantities of Mescal honey in the mixture. Most hives in southeastern Arizona are sufficiently strong so that at least 25 percent of the bees can be used for increase in colonies. In the irrigated sections of western Arizona some Tamarisk honey is being gathered. Losses from cotton dusting continue to be reported. Sales f.o.b. shipping point per lb. - Alfalfa-Mesquite case to ten lots 12-13¢, in single 60s 12½-13½¢; in small pails 15¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 17½¢. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb., f.o.b. to beekeepers.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period Aug. 24-Sept. 9)

Northeast Texas. Rains during late August and early September with cool night have improved cotton, asters, and broomweed. Present indications are that considerable fall honey may be gathered. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Mixed Flowers in small pails 20¢.

East Texas. Bees are working tievine in this section, but rain is badly needed to improve plant conditions. Many colonies will need additional stores to carry them through the winter. Cotton poisoning has been serious in some sections and many colonies have been weakened. Some colonies will have to be strengthened by introduction of new bees. Orders and inquiries for package bees for next spring's delivery continue heavy. No honey sales were reported but beeswax moved at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Southwest Texas. Much of this section continues very dry although in some districts rains have broken the long drought. Elm and various shrubs and weeds are yielding pollen, and granjeno (hackberry) is yielding both nectar and pollen. White brush will soon be in bloom and will yield a short flow which will

be beneficial in building up winter stores. Colonies are in fairly good condition and queens are again beginning to lay. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - South Texas Cotton in case to ton lots 12¢.

New Mexico. In the Mesilla Valley August produced a good steady alfalfa flow. Much of the alfalfa has now been cut and cool weather has reduced the flow except from cotton. This section is still very dry and rain will be necessary before any honey for winter stores can be gathered from fall flowers. Some colonies are short of bees. The middle Rio Grande Valley and northern New Mexico will produce about 50 percent of a normal crop. The honey in this section is mostly darker than usual. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, Mixed Flowers \$10.18 per case of 12, 5-lb. pails.

Oklahoma. The honey crop in Oklahoma is short with colonies which were in good condition at the beginning of the season producing an average of around 30 pounds, although the average for the State as a whole will be considerably lower.

Arkansas. A good rain in eastern Arkansas during the first week in September greatly improved fall honey plant conditions. Heartsease is beginning to bloom in a limited way, but no fall surplus is being gathered yet.

PLAINS AREA: (Period Aug. 26-Sept. 10)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. The honey flow is about over in this section except for some pasturage from wild aster and goldenrod. While some beekeepers report a crop as large or larger than last year, the crop as a whole in this area will be somewhat below normal. Extracting is 50 to 75 percent completed. Much of the honey is slightly darker than usual but of good flavor and heavy body. Recent cool weather will check broodrearing.

Moisture conditions are below normal at present. Demand continued active with a large proportion of the crop moving locally. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Sweetclover carlots 12¢ with cans furnished and 11½¢ with cans returned, in single 60s 15¢, 1-lb. glass jars few 24¢. Comb- Sweetclover No. 1, \$6.00 per case. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb., f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Iowa. Western Iowa, along the Missouri River, has been dry during much of this period and fall plants are suffering. In eastern Iowa the weather has been cool and cloudy with considerable wind so that bees could work only a portion of the time. In eastern Iowa goldenrod, smartweed and heartsease are blooming and asters are just coming on. Extracting is actively under way. Practically all beekeepers report a lighter crop than last year which was also below normal. Some beekeepers have as little as 15 - 20 pound surplus, while only occasional ones report yields of much over 60 pounds per colony. Colonies are in generally good condition. Demand for honey has been active but few large lot sales to outside packers have been reported. Sales f.o.b. per lb. - extracted Clover case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s 15¢; in small pails 17-19¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢. Comb- Sweetclover few small lots No. 1, \$6.00-7.20 per case. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb. cash, and 43½¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Nebraska. Cold weather, in some sections approaching freezing, has largely stopped the honey flow, although if weather permits bees may obtain some pasturage and a little honey for winter stores from fall flowers. The crop is considerably below normal. Some late package bees did not make winter stores. Broodrearing has been heavy which has resulted in heavy consumption of stores.

Kansas. While good showers around the first of September broke the drought which prevailed during August they came too late to be of much benefit to fall plants. Since the first of September it has been too cool for bees to gather any more than a bare living. Most colonies are in fairly good condition although large amounts of brood and young bees have resulted in heavy consumption of stores and many colonies are light in winter stores.

Missouri. The heartsease flow in eastern Missouri is still heavy and good rains should extend that flow. Bonaset is in bloom but apparently not yielding. The Spanish needle stand in this section is light and at present not very promising.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period Aug. 26-Sept. 10)

Michigan. Extracting of the white honey is well under way in Michigan. Quality is excellent but yield is below normal and reported not over 50-60 pounds per colony. Rain and cool windy weather prevented bees from working much on the aster and other fall flowers. Prospects from the fall honey flow are disappointing, although a fair amount of honey was obtained from fall flowers in the Lower Peninsula until the first week in September. Bees are in much better condition than last year. Most colonies will go into winter quarters with more stores and a stronger population of young bees. Demand for honey is very good, especially the consumer trade, and most supplies of honey are moving locally at ceiling levels. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - extracted Clover in carlots 12¢, small pails 17-19 1/3¢; in single 60s 15¢. Beeswax 43 1/2¢ in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Wisconsin. Considerable cold, rainy weather and wind with near freezing temperatures during the latter part of the period has cut short the fall honey flow, in some localities being almost a complete failure. Extracting is progressing rapidly. While some beekeepers report yields of 100 to 135 pounds surplus the crop as a whole was much lighter than this. Indications are the crop will be heavier than last year, however. Quality of honey is generally a little better this season than last. Bees are in fair condition. Broodrearing is tapering off and some beekeepers report queens have stopped laying. Demand for honey is very good and moving almost as fast as it is being extracted into local trade channels at ceiling levels. Little comb honey is available. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, extracted White Clover, case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 17 1/2¢.

Minnesota. Cold rainy weather during much of this period cut the fall flow short. Extracting is practically completed and commercial beekeepers report their yields range from 60 - 80 pounds per colony. Smaller beekeepers' crops are much less. The late honey crop is somewhat dark but with a mild flavor and thin body. Fall bloom of honey plants especially smartweed and Spanish needle was the best in several years but produced little nectar. Bees worked well on these nectar sources and Hubam clover during the few days the weather permitted. Colonies are expected to start the winter in much better condition this year with fairly good stores. Queenless colonies have been reported by some beekeepers. Demand for honey is very good, with most supplies packed in small containers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, extracted White Clover, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 19¢.

Ohio. Cool weather and rain in most sections of the state has curtailed bee activity. The clover crop has been mostly extracted and so far has proved very disappointing with the yield for the State reported at around 30 pounds per colony. Fall honey plants especially Spanish needle, asters and goldenrod are in good condition and beekeepers are hoping for a much better flow than produced by clover, although little honey has been gathered from these sources to date. Bees are in fairly good condition and beemen hope that the fall flow will build up winter stores. Demand for honey is very good and most is being sold locally almost as fast as it can be extracted. Large lot buyers are still trying to buy on contract at ceiling levels. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, extracted, Clover, case to ton lots 12¢, in small pails and 1-lb. glass jars 20¢. Comb, case lots Clover, average quality \$5.00; Buckwheat, No. 1, few sales \$6.50.

Indiana. Cool weather in northern Indiana has retarded bee activity. The honey crop is rather spotted with some beekeepers reporting only 25 percent of normal while nearby beemen report yields near normal. Bees secured a light flow of nectar from heartsease but the flow from aster and goldenrod has not yet started. Bees are working some sweetclover. Honey plants appear to be in fair condition but prospects for a fall flow are doubtful. Bees appear to be in fairly good condition but are cutting down broodrearing. Brood nests are still sizeable and some of the gathered nectar is being stored in brood chambers. Demand for honey is very good and exceeds supply. Much is being sold as fast as it can be extracted. Practically all sales are made to the local trade at ceiling levels. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, extracted Clover, per lb., small pails mostly around 18¢; glass jars 17 1/2-22 1/2¢, with some sales direct to consumers higher.

Illinois. Weather has been variable with hot days and cool nights in most sections of the state. Extracting is well along and some beekeepers have completed this operation. Yields are spotted. Some report their crop almost a failure, others only 50 percent of normal, while occasional yields as high as 100 pounds have been reported. Honey plants are in fairly good condition but appear to contain little nectar. Bees are working heartsease, Spanish needle and some aster. Colonies appear fairly strong and in good condition with plenty of young bees. It is probable that some yards will be short of winter stores. Demand for honey continues very good with most sales being made directly to retail or consumer trade. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - extracted White Clover, carlots and case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s 12-15¢, mostly 15¢; in small pails 15¢; in small jars 20¢. Bulk comb honey few sales 15¢ per lb. Beeswax 41¢ cash, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Kentucky. Recent rains in northern Kentucky have greatly improved the prospects for a fall honey flow. Goldenrod and heartsease are providing some nectar. Asters are plentiful and will provide an additional source of honey if weather conditions permit bees to work.

NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Aug. 27-Sept. 11)

New York. In western and central New York the buckwheat flow was stopped short by cool, dry weather during the last week in August. While some sections have reported a buckwheat honey crop about the same as last year, many other sections have had a crop far below either last year's figure or a normal production. In these sections of the State prospects are now rather poor for any large fall flow, although in some sections goldenrod is producing a little honey. In the northeastern section of the State the early fall flow was quite heavy but this has been cut off recently by rains and cool weather. In the Hudson River Valley the fall flow has been fair, goldenrod is now at its height and asters are coming in. Colonies are generally in good condition although in some parts of central and western New York where the clover crop was extracted very closely some feeding will be necessary unless additional stores can be gathered from the fall flow. Demand for honey continues heavy with a fairly large volume of Clover honey moving. Sales f.o.b., per lb. - extracted Clover in carlots 12¢; case to ton lots 12-15¢, mostly around 12¢; in barrels 13¢; in single 60s 14-16¢, mostly around 15¢, some 12¢; in small pails 16½-20¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 20½-23¢; Buckwheat in case to ton lots mostly 12¢, some higher; in single 60s 13.7-16¢, mostly 15¢. Comb White Clover and Buckwheat few sales \$7.00 per case. Beeswax 43-43½¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Vermont. Frequent rains in northern Vermont have prevented bees from obtaining much fall honey. Newly seeded clover and pastures are growing very well, indicating a good stand of clover for next year. Sales f.o.b. per lb. - extracted Clover, in small pails 17¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢. Comb White Clover No. 1, \$5.50-6.00, mostly \$6.00.

Connecticut. Apiaries in southeastern Connecticut obtained a good flow from pepperbush (clethra). The total crop in this section is the best in several years. The quality of the crop is very good. Demand for honey continues strong. Sales f.o.b. - Comb No. 1, \$6.00 per case.

Pennsylvania. In northern Pennsylvania the buckwheat flow is over. Goldenrod is supplying little nectar because of the low temperatures which prevent bees from flying more than a few hours a day. Much of the buckwheat honey on the hives is thin and cannot be extracted for some time. Prospects are that this crop will be light. Most colonies have good brood nests and strong population of young bees with ample stores for winter.

New Jersey. Much of New Jersey continues to be very dry. Bees are working goldenrod. Extracting has been very slow recently.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period Aug. 27-Sept. 11)

Maryland. A good rain during the first week in September greatly improved prospects of a fall flow. Goldenrod is just beginning to bloom. Clover honey for the State is short of early estimates. Condition of bees is generally satisfactory and with a normal fall honey flow they should go into winter in good shape.

West Virginia. Fall bloom in the mountains of West Virginia is heavy and present prospects are for a fairly good crop from goldenrod, asters, and other late blooming flowers. Extracted honey is moving well to retailers at around 20¢ per lb.

North Carolina. Present prospects for a fall flow are not particularly good, although it is possible that sufficient honey may be gathered to provide winter stores. Sourwood in the mountain areas was almost a complete failure. A large proportion of the honey in this State has already moved out of the hands of beekeepers.

South Carolina. Only a little nectar is coming in at this time from cotton, cowpeas, and other minor sources. Goldenrod has made a good growth and will soon be in bloom. Aster plants also are in good condition, but normally little surplus is obtained in South Carolina from either of these plants. Demand for new honey is heavy, with most sales around ceiling levels.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Aug. 27-Sept. 10)

Georgia. Rains during this period in southeastern Georgia provided ample moisture to guarantee a fairly good flow from Mexican clover, bitterweed and other fall flowers. Beekeepers are looking for this fall flow to provide winter stores. Bees are in fairly good condition. Many beemen are requeening. Heavy orders have been placed for package bees and queens for April and May shipment. Labor shortages are expected to seriously hamper queen rearing and shipping unless some relief is found. The crop is much below normal. Practically no honey is now available.

Florida. Rain has slowed up extracting in some parts of the state. Honey plants are in good condition and prospects look good for a fall crop. Cabbage Palmetto has yielded well and some strong colonies gathered 50 pounds or more surplus from this source. Bees are in good condition and are building up well when weather permits much activity. Demand for honey is generally good and moving mostly at ceiling levels. In some parts of the state practically all bulk honey is out of producers hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb.-
extracted Mixed Flowers, in barrels 12¢; Tupelo, in single 60s 14¢, very few sales 15¢.

Alabama. Northern sections of the State are still suffering from drought and prospects are for a very short crop. Cooler weather late in the period aided the flow from boneset and bitterweed. Rains have improved conditions of honey plants in southern sections of the state. Bees are in good condition and storing some honey from purslane and bitterweed. To date the crop for this section appears short.

Louisiana. Extracting is over in northern Louisiana. Some yards in favorable localities report surpluses up to 150 pounds per colony. This year's honey is of good body and of a lighter color than last season's crop. In the Baton Rouge area scale hives are losing some weight and little nectar is being gathered. Bees in all sections appear to be in good condition and brood-rearing is increasing. Pollen from partridge peas is plentiful. Heavy orders for package bees for spring shipment are now being placed. Demand for honey is good and exceeds supply. In southern Louisiana most honey is being sold locally at around 20¢ per lb. at roadside stands. Large buyers are active and trying to buy the lighter grades. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, extracted, Amber-Vervain, in barrels 12¢. - - - - -

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the middle of September. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: No arrivals reported.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand good, market strong. Very few delivered sales to large retailers - IOWA, Sweetclover, Light Amber, 1-lb. jars \$3.02 per doz.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by truck, 3,600 lbs. Ill.; 1,290 lbs. Ind.

COMB: Supplies very light. Demand moderate, market firm. Sales to retailers - cases 24-sections White Clover, cellophane-wrapped, very few sales in small lots; ILLINOIS, \$6.25-6.50; INDIANA, fair quality \$5.50-5.75.

EXTRACTED: Practically no supplies on market. No sales reported.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 41½-43½¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

DENVER: Receipts extracted approximately 60,000 lbs.; comb 350 cases, wax 600 lbs. all Colorado. Demand good, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers and direct to large retail outlets - COLORADO, Alfalfa White Sweetclover, White to Water White, glass jars cases 12, 5-lb. \$10.12-10.18; 12, 2-lb. \$4.70-4.76; 24, 1-lb. \$5.04-5.10; 24, half pound \$2.77-2.80.

COMB: Demand good, market firm. Sales to retailers - COLORADO, Fancy cellophane wrapped 12-oz. \$6.00-6.50.

BEESWAX: Demand moderate, market steady. Domestic, crude 40 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, 360, 60lb. cans Minn. White Sweetclover.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand very good, market firm at ceiling prices. Sales to wholesale grocers - U. S. No. 1, blended honey 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.27; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.40; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.57; 12, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. jars \$5.72. Sales to retail grocers - 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.54; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.93; 12, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. jars \$6.50.

COMB: No sales reported.

BEESWAX: Supplies very light. Demand good, market firm. Sales f.o.b. beekeepers - Domestic, crude Light Yellow cash 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; in trade 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: 63,800 lbs. Calif., 1 car Mich; origin not specified 2 cars and 181,173 lbs.; by truck 6,000¹/₈ lbs. Pa. Supplies light. Demand exceeds supply, market at ceiling. Very few sales.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers and manufacturers - CALIFORNIA, Light Amber Sage and Light Amber Alfalfa 16-16 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. Imported, practically all sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling prices. IMPORTED, reprocessed 1500 lbs. or less 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 1500-20,000 pounds 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 20,000 pounds or more 14¢.

BEESWAX: Supplies very light. Demand exceeds supply, market firm. Sales by receivers port of entry - SOUTH AMERICA and WEST INDIES, sun bleachable 44 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢. non-sun bleachable 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Arrivals: by rail 61,500 lbs. Calif.; 69,000 lbs. origin not specified. No sales reported.

BEESWAX: No offerings. No prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck extracted 8,047 lbs. bottled Midwestern. Demand good, no offerings. No prices available.

PORTLAND: Receipts: from Oregon via motor truck 139, 60-lb. cans Clover-Vetch and 22, 60-lb. cans Fireweed; from Calif. 1 car Mixed Flowers. Cased honey supplies light, market firm.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers - OREGON, IDAHO and CALIFORNIA, in case lots, 12, 5-lb. jars \$10.52-10.58; 24, 1-lb. glass jars \$5.89-6.13. Bulk, IDAHO, 17¢; OREGON 15¢.

BEESWAX: Demand good. Dealers paying 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

ST. LOUIS: Offerings very light. Demand moderate, market steady. Sales by commission merchants to retailers -

EXTRACTED: ILLINOIS, Mixed Flowers, Light Amber and Amber, 60-lb. tins, very few 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND AND ALAMEDA: Receipts at bay cities via truck - from Central Calif. 1726 cases Light to Extra Light Amber Alfalfa; 190 cases White Lima Bean; 676 cases Extra Light Amber to White Lima Bean - Cotton-Blue Curls; 290 cases Light Amber Buckwheat; 240 cases White to Extra White Sage; 175 cases 1,569 lbs.; from Northern California 220 cases White Clover, 2,020 cases White Thistle; 427 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers; from Southern Calif. 469 cases White Sage-Buckwheat.

**Estimated honey production in 1943 and honey on hand Aug. 20 for
sale with comparisons for 1942 1/**

Preliminary, based upon producers' reports of August 20

State and Geog. Div.	Colonies of bees	Yield per colony	Production of honey entire season	Honey for sale, in producer's hand on August 20
	1942:1943	1942 : 1943	1942 : 1943	1942 : 1943
	Thousands	Pounds	Thousands pounds	Thousands pounds
Me.	6	6	20	16
N.H.	3	3	30	35
Vt.	8	8	50	43
Mass.	17	17	15	26
R.I.	1	1	20	23
Conn.	20	18	30	30
N.Y.	203	199	50	47
N.J.	27	26	14	30
Pa.	190	184	20	32
N.A.	475	462	33.2	38.0
Ohio	310	298	23	30
Ind.	159	154	25	34
Ill.	225	191	20	20
Mich.	176	172	45	48
Wis.	183	187	40	52
N.C.E.	1,053	1,002	29.3	35.9
Minn.	240	252	70	67
Iowa	200	200	55	52
Mo.	160	160	18	23
N.Dak.	24	21	88	95
S.Dak.	17	18	112	64
Nebr.	46	49	120	98
Kans.	40	44	35	39
N.C.W.	727	744	57.2	54.6
Del.	4	3	10	10
Md.	24	24	14	13
Va.	128	119	21	13
W.Va.	104	95	13	12
N.C.	183	165	18	20
S.C.	55	52	18	14
Ga.	173	173	30	18
Fla.	150	162	55	51
S.A.	821	793	27.0	23.2
Ky.	147	153	12	11
Tenn.	158	155	12	17
Ala.	128	141	13	17
Miss.	56	60	10	14
Ark.	75	70	13	17
La.	56	62	18	30
Okla.	40	43	25	19
Tex.	196	204	27	36
S.C.	856	886	16.5	21.1
Mont.	37	39	128	84
Idaho	124	135	57	55
Wyo.	31	35	93	70
Colo.	66	69	90	70
N.Mex.	15	17	45	65
Ariz.	75	79	80	70
Utah	47	52	50	40
Nev.	13	14	60	30
Wash.	71	67	23	26
Oreg.	54	57	30	33
Calif.	435	448	45	65
West.	968	1,012	55.0	59.1
U.S.	4,900	4,901	36.3	39.0

1/Stocks in producers' hands for sale. Some honey still on hives probably included in 1942 but not in 1943. 2/From July reports. 3/ No data available on 1943 stocks in Georgia & Fla.

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WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
Food distribution Administration

Telephone - REpublic 4142,
Extension 2178.

Washington 25, D. C.
October 1, 1943.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - NO. 609

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

SUMMARY

The main honey flow is now over in all sections of the country. About all that is left for bees will be a little from fall flowers for pasturage and to help out with winter stores. Cool weather in the more northern States has stopped practically all activity among bees. In the southern portion of the North Central States, the South Atlantic States, and fairly well into the South, goldenrod and asters are producing fairly well where weather conditions permit extended activity on the part of bees. In the Southeast fall flowers are coming along nicely, especially in Georgia and Florida, and should produce ample winter stores. Extracting in the northern States is fairly well completed and indications are that the crop as a whole will be somewhat short of normal, although in some States it may be heavier than last year. Labor shortages continue to delay extracting operations and preparation for winter in all sections. For the country as a whole bees are in much better condition for winter than last year, with generally good populations and a good supply of brood. Winter stores are also ample except in some individual cases where the main crop was extracted too closely. Demand continues heavy both on the part of large wholesalers and packers, and local retailers and consumers. In many heavy producing sections of the country a large proportion of the crop has been sold locally. In general the quality of the crop is reported as good. In some portions of the Plains Area and North Central States the honey has a little lighter body than normal, while a large portion of the crop in the Intermountain Area is darker than usual.

The 1943 honey crop in Canada is tentatively estimated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at 32.5 million pounds. Details are found on page 8.

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CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period September 8-23)

Southern California. Temperatures in southern California were generally above normal during the latter half of September, with some cloudiness. In the mountains there is practically nothing for bees to work on; in the valleys some pollen and a little nectar is being obtained from cover crop mustard, rabbit brush, and blue curls. Eucalyptus (glue gum) is just beginning to bloom. Demand for honey continues to exceed the supply. The baking trade is using a little less honey than previously because of increased sugar quotas. Sales f.o.b. shipping point ten lots or more- Southern California Buckwheat, Orange, and Mixed Flowers \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds. Offerings of beeswax have shown some increase, with sales at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash, and 43½¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Central California. Weather conditions have been favorable over most of central California. Late harvesting of grain crops made the blue curls bloom a little later than usual. Stands of blue curls are very spotted, being very good in some locations but very light in others. Bees are still working cotton, blue curls, Jack clover, tarweed, and in some sections late alfalfa. Colonies will generally be in good condition for winter with ample pollen and honey for stores. Probably around 75 percent of the colonies have this year's queens. Demand for honey continues heavy, especially from retailers. Buyers and bottlers are having some difficulty in getting truck delivery from interior valley points, especially in small lots. Some bottlers are rationing honey with little choice as to color or flavor. Some are bottling only blends. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, in case lots or more- Alfalfa, Blue Curls, Buckwheat, Carrot, Clover, Orange mixture, and Mixed Flowers 12¢ per lb. A little more beeswax is moving at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb., f.o.b. to beekeepers.

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Northern California. In most sections of northern California colonies are in fairly good condition and well supplied with stores and brood. In some sections there are a large number of queenless colonies. In the tomato producing areas arsenical poisoning from tomato dusting has severely reduced or killed out colonies. Fall honey plants are generally normal in abundance, but the flow has been short because of an abnormally cool season. Star thistle has dried up in the non-irrigated sections but is still producing in irrigated districts. Blue curls are normal in some areas while others are much below normal. Some nectar is still being obtained from alfalfa, spikeweed, tarweed, and morning glory, in addition to blue curls and other ^{star} thistle. Oak honeydew has been quite plentiful. Demand for honey has been heavy. Extracting has been retarded by lack of labor in some sections. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. in case lots or more- Clover, Thistle, and Mixed Flowers 12¢ per lb.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period Sept. 8-23)

West of Cascades. The honey season is about over. In most of the fireweed areas yields were very light, probably averaging not much over 20 pounds per colony, although many individual colonies produced much more in favorable locations. The condition of colonies is generally good, with strong populations and considerable brood. In most cases winter stores appear ample. Demand for honey has been good from local retailers and consumers. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted, Clover-Vetch in case to ton lots 12¢; Mixed Flowers in small pails 19¢; bulk to consumers in buyers' containers 15¢.

East of Cascades. Little honey has been gathered during this period. Third cutting alfalfa bloomed a little later than normally. Other fall flowers have bloomed fairly well, but cool weather has prevented bees from working much of the time. In general colonies are in fairly good condition, with ample stores. Local demand continues heavy. There has been some shortage of containers for use by beekeepers in this section. This has been especially true of 60s and small glass jars. Sales f.o.b. - Clover-Alfalfa, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 19-21¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period Sept. 9-23)

The honey flow is practically over in the Intermountain Region except for a little pasturage which bees may obtain on warm, clear days. A large proportion of the crop has been extracted. Over much of the area the honey is running darker than normal. Bees are in generally good condition with fair to ample winter stores. Demand for honey continues heavy, with packers' representatives scouring the country to obtain either large or small lots. Sales to local consumers and retailers continued heavy, both in small containers and in single 60s. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted - Clover - Alfalfa in carlots 12¢ with cans furnished, and 11½¢ with cans returned; in case to ton lots mostly 12¢, with some 13-14¢; in single 60s and 10-lb. pails mostly 15¢; in 5-lb. pails 19-19 1/3¢. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers. Details by States follow:

Colorado. On the Western Slope crop conditions have been spotted, although in general yields are a little better than earlier anticipated. In some districts on the Western Slope the fall flow was better than average, while in others it was something of a disappointment. Yields in this section have ranged all the way from 50 to 120 pounds per colony. In many yards good winter stores have been built up from rabbit brush and aster, which will make it possible to extract practically the entire alfalfa-clover crop. East of the Rockies extracting is about over. Much of this section is badly in need of rain, with the mountain streams in the northern part of the State reported the lowest in many years. In the northern part of the State the crop this season was better than normal, running from 100-120 pounds per colony in many yards. In the Arkansas Valley of southeastern Colorado yields have ranged from 75 to 85 pounds, in some cases lower. Quality of the honey is good.

Wyoming. Frosts over Wyoming have practically ended the nectar flow for this season. On warm, clear days bees were able to obtain a little pollen and pasturage. Extracting is well under way and has already been completed by many beekeepers. For the southern part of the State as a whole the yield may be close to normal, while for the northern part of the State as a whole yields are light. In all sections of the State production has been spotted. In some yards individual colonies will have a heavy supply of honey, while others are extremely light. The quality of the honey crop is generally good, although much of it is somewhat darker than normal.

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Montana. The honey gathering season in Montana is over and extracting is about finished except among some of the larger beekeepers who are being handicapped by shortage of labor. On the Western slope of the Rockies the crop was only about one half of normal, while for the eastern and northern parts of the State it is probably close to average. In general the honey is not of as good quality as usual, with some yards gathering the darkest honey produced in many years. Bees are in generally good condition for winter, with ample stores. Local demand for honey has been heavy. One large producer reports receiving as many as 200 orders a day for single 60s.

Idaho. The honey season is about over in the Snake River Valley. Bees gathered some honey in favorable locations which helped put them in good condition for winter. Bees appear to be about normal with plant and water conditions also normal. Many beekeepers have about finished extracting.

Utah. The honey flow is largely over and most of the crop has been extracted. Bees are still obtaining a little pasturage on warm, clear days. Robbing by bees has been quite serious. In the vegetable producing sections many bees have been poisoned since July 15, resulting in the weakening of many colonies.

Nevada. The honey season is about at an end. Estimates for the State as a whole still run around 30 pounds per colony for this season's crop. There has been a little movement of bees to rabbit brush areas to obtain winter stores. Some seasons this shrub produces abundantly during late September and early October.

ARIZONA: (Period Sept. 9-23)

In southeastern Arizona dry weather is decreasing the fall flow. This will not, however, be serious in most sections as bees have an ample supply of stores for winter. In this section the season has been excellent for division of colonies, and most beekeepers should find their bees in good condition for winter. In the Salt River Valley colonies which were not seriously injured or destroyed by cotton dusting are now producing a surplus from cotton and tamarisk. There is sufficient tamarisk now in most of the honey to give it a greenish color. In the Yuma section bees and plants are about normal for this season of the year. Sales f.o.b. shipping point per lb. - Light Amber-Alfalfa, in case to ton lots and carlots 12¢; Alfalfa-Mesquite in single 60s and case to ton lots 13½¢, in small pails 15-16¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 17½¢. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period Sept. 10-25)

East Texas. Weather continues dry in this area. Bees are in fairly good condition, although some colonies are still short of stores. Prospects for a fall honey flow are not good.

Southeast Texas. Drying winds have hampered the work of bees and they have barely made a living. Colonies are, however, in fairly good condition for the fall flow. Rains are needed to insure a flow of any volume from goldenrod, aster, and other fall flowers. Package beekeepers in this section are strengthening and preparing their colonies for next spring's shipments. Some are booked to capacity for deliveries of package bees and queens through next May.

Southwest Texas. In this area weather has been cooler. More rain is needed badly for fall honey plants. Bees are gathering a little nectar from tievine, broomweed, and wild salvia. Some bees are reported in rather poor condition. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, extracted per lb. - Light Amber Mesquite and Cotton, single 60s 12¢, small pails 17¢, 1-lb. glass jars 22¢. South Texas cotton in single 60s 11½¢.

New Mexico. In the Mesilla Valley good soaking rains in the last few days of the period have broken the drought. Labor shortage has seriously affected some beekeepers and considerable honey still remains in the hives. Many producers in this section are converting all equipment from comb to extracted honey. Sales to retailers by producers extracted- Mixed Flowers \$11.61 per case of 12, 5-lb. pails.

Oklahoma. Weather continues dry. The honey crop is short, in some localities insufficient to meet the local demand.

Arkansas. Weather was cool and cloudy during the past two weeks and bees were able to fly only part of the day. In West Central Arkansas where the drought was severe bees did practically nothing in the summer heat, are now

working a little on bitterweed. This will stimulate broodrearing and strengthen colonies for the fall flow from Spanish needle. In other sections some beekeepers report yields to date about 75 percent of last year's. Sales f.o.b. shipping point per lb. extracted - Mixed Flowers, case to ten lots 12¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢.

PLAINS AREA (Period Sept.10-Sept.25)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. This region is showing a slight moisture deficiency but plants are in generally fair condition. Heavy killing frosts in the middle of the period have killed bloom on most honey plants. Asters are still yielding lightly. Bees gathered some nectar from this source on the fair, warm days which occurred later in the period. Most colonies are reported in good condition for winter with ample stores and brood. Many producers in this section are moving their bees south. Extracting is mostly completed. Consumer demand for honey is good and many beekeepers are packing and selling direct to retailers and consumers. Smaller producers have sold most of their crop. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted Sweetclover, Single 60s 15¢, small pails 18-19¢, cases of 12 3-lb. glass jars \$6.85 per case. Beeswax 41½¢ cash and 43½¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Iowa. Weather has been cool during most of the period. Honey plants are in fair condition and show promise for next season but rain is needed in some sections. The fall flow is over and was disappointing, although many colonies stored some honey from Hubam clover, and a few other fall flowers. Bees are in fairly good condition to go into winter quarters. Some beemen are killing off queenless and weaker colonies. Some stands of bees have already been packed and put into winter locations. Extracting is mostly done. Honey is of good quality with a little lighter body than usual. Yields ranging from as low as 10 lbs. to as high as 100 lbs. have been reported. The demand for honey is good. Little honey is going to outside packers. Considerable honey is selling directly to retailers and consumers as fast as it can be packed. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted, White Clover, case to ten lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 16¢.

Nebraska. Cool weather with several frosts have stopped the fall flow in this section from all flowers except goldenrod. Young honey plants need moisture badly and are not in very good shape. Bees have been collecting pollen the last few days of the period. Colonies appear in good condition for wintering but broodrearing has slowed down too quickly in some cases. Honey demand is good and most sales are direct to retailers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, comb, Fancy \$6.00 per case, No.1 \$5.50 per case.

Kansas. Weather was variable in this section being cool one day and warm the next. Rains late in the period aided the late flowers considerably but was too late to help the fall flow to any extent and the flow was short. Bees in most cases stored enough honey to carry them thru the winter and appear to be in good condition at present. Some beekeepers have already prepared bees for winter.

Missouri. Rather warm days and cool nights with occasional light frosts were the rule in this section. Heartsense and Spanish needle yielded well during the fall flow and bees are still gathering a little nectar from these sources. Colonies for the most part are in good condition with ample stores for winter. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, extracted, per lb. - Heartsense, Spanish Needle and Clover blend, single 60s 12¢.

CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES (Period Sept.11-Sept.27)

Michigan. Weather during this period has been cold with several killing frosts. Bees were unable to work much on the good stand of Aster and a few other fall flowers. Extracting is over in most localities of the State with yields averaging around 50 lbs. per colony. Some yards will average more. Quality of this years honey crop is good. The fall flow was disappointing and in some cases a failure. Most colonies appear to be in fairly good condition with many young bees and more winter stores than last year although some bees will require feeding. Some beemen are leaving as much as 65 lbs. of honey in the hives for winter. Demand for honey continues good with most sales made to consumers and retailers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, extracted, Clover, carlots 12¢, single 60s 15¢. Cases of 12 5-lb pails \$10.18 per case, 6 5-lb. glass jars \$5.80 per case. Beeswax 43½¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Wisconsin. Cold, wet weather with occasional frosts prevented bees from working much during this period. The fall flow was shortened in most sections. The condition of honey plants looks rather promising for next season. Extracting is mostly completed throughout the State. Crops were spotted, with both good and poor yields reported within the same locality. Bees are, for the most part, strong and in fairly good condition but with some queenless hives. In some yards colonies are using stores rather fast and are losing weight. Winter feeding will probably be necessary in those cases. Demand for honey is good. Comb honey is scarce. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb.-Extracted, White Clover, carlots 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ with cans returned, in single 60s 15¢.

Minnesota. Weather throughout most of the period was cool and cloudy with some frosts. The fall honey flow was disappointing. Bees gathered a little nectar from smartweed and Spanish needle on the few warm days. Beekeepers have completed extracting in most localities and the yield is expected to be lower than that of last season. Although most colonies are in fair condition and somewhat stronger than last year many are short on stores and will need to be fed. Honey sales are good and a large part of the crop is already out of producers' hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Extracted, ^{Clover} case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s 15¢. Beeswax 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ cash and 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Ohio. Weather in this section has been rather cool and rain is needed. Days have been cool and cloudy most of the period and occasional light frosts occurred. Bees were able to work only a few hours of the warm days and little nectar was gathered from asters, goldenrod, Spanish needle and smartweed. Colonies appear to be in good condition in most sections but rather low in stores. Unless an additional flow develops many colonies will have to be fed heavily during the winter. Extracting is mostly completed and honey is moving rapidly out of the producers' hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb.-Extracted, Clover in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 20¢. Comb honey, Clover \$5.00-6.00 per case. Beeswax sold at 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ cash and 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ in trade per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Indiana. Cool rainy weather prevailed over most of this area. Bees had little opportunity for flight, and little honey was gathered from the plentiful fall blooms. Prospects are not good for the fall flow. Bees appear to be in good condition at present. Honey is moving well and some smaller beekeepers are already sold out. Most sales are direct to retailer and consumers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point per lb.-Extracted, White Clover, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 20-21¢.

Illinois. Weather was cool in this section with occasional rain and light frosts. In some localities dry weather continues. Heartsease, goldenrod, Spanish needle and other fall flowers were rather plentiful but bees were able to fly and work only part of the time, resulting in a short fall crop. Colonies for the most part are strong in population with good stores of honey and pollen. Feeding, however, will be necessary for some of the weaker colonies in some yards. Extracting is almost completed. The yield is rather spotted with normal and short crops reported in the same locality. The demand for honey is good. A large part of the crop is moving to retail and consumer trade as fast as extracted. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb.-Extracted, Clover, case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s 15¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 20¢. Section comb honey \$6.00 per case. Beeswax 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash and 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeeper.

Kentucky. Rains and cool weather have retarded both honey plants and bees in eastern Kentucky. Colonies have stored little surplus and only small amounts of nectar have been gathered from goldenrod and aster. Feeding of weaker colonies in this section will probably be necessary during the winter. In western Kentucky plant conditions are more favorable and with good weather bees should obtain some additional honey from Spanish needle, goldenrod and asters. Considerable honey has already moved from producers' hands into consumer channels. Demand is good but no sales were reported. Beeswax sold at 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ cash and 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

NORTHEASTERN SECTION (Period Sept. 11-Sept. 28)

New York. In western and central New York the fall honey crop has been light. In some sections bees have added some to their winter stores, but in other sections the fall crop has been almost a failure. Robbing by bees has been excessive. In the Hudson River Valley, on the other hand, some beekeepers report the best fall flow in a number of years, with surpluses of 35-50 pounds from late flowers. The weather continues favorable in eastern New York, with bees still

gathering some honey, but in northern and western New York it is cooler and the fall flow appears to be about over. Extracting is progressing well. In general bees are in good condition for winter, with ample stores except among those beekeepers who earlier extracted too closely and have failed to obtain a fall flow. Demand continues good, with a fairly heavy movement. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. Extracted Clover, carlots 12¢; case to ton lots mostly 12¢, with a few high as 15¢; in single 60s 14-15¢, mostly 15¢; in small pails 17-20¢; 1-lb. glass jars a few 20¢; Buckwheat, carlots and case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s only one sale reported at 13 1/3¢; Mixed Flowers, in small pails 19¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 20¢. Comb, Clover No.1 \$5.00-5.50, mostly \$5.50 per case; Buckwheat, fair quality \$4.00. Beeswax 41 1/2¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Vermont. Favorable weather during late September has permitted bees to gather some late honey which will help out for winter feed. Newly seeded clovers are in excellent shape. Sales f.o.b. per lb., extracted, Clover in small pails 17¢; in 1-lb. jars 21¢. Comb, Clover No.1, \$6.00 per case.

Connecticut. The pepperbush (clethra) flow in the southeastern part of the State was the best in years. Individual colonies stored as high as 150-170 pounds which is an exceptional yield for this section. Goldenrod bloomed a little late but furnished a good flow. Practically all colonies are in good condition with ample winter stores.

New Jersey. The aster and goldenrod flow has been good except in the southern part of the State where the extreme drought of the late summer damaged goldenrod plants. Practically all colonies have heavy winter stores and some have produced a little surplus from the fall flow.

Pennsylvania. Recent frosts in the mountains of northern Pennsylvania have practically finished the goldenrod flow, which was fair. In this section of the State a fairly good buckwheat crop was gathered. The dry weather which has persisted for the last several weeks has injured new clover seedlings and if it continues much longer may damage white clover in pastures. In northern Pennsylvania colonies are in good condition both from the standpoint of population and stores. Sales, f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted, Light Amber Clover in single 60s 15¢.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period Sept.11-Sept.28)

Maryland. In parts of Maryland the drought which severely cut the honey flows still persists, while in other sections light rains have benefitted fall flowers. Over most of the State the weather has been a little too cool for bees to take full advantage of the goldenrod flow. Wild asters will soon be in bloom and with favorable weather some additional winter stores may yet be gathered. Present indications are, however, that many beekeepers must resort to winter feeding.

West Virginia. In western West Virginia continued dry weather has been injurious to both goldenrod and asters, so that little fall honey is in sight.

Virginia. Normal fall weather prevails in the mountain sections of southern and western Virginia, with some fall honey coming in. In the Tidewater section the fall flow has been good. Sumac and heartsease are over and bees are now working golden rod and asters.

South Carolina. Goldenrod is in bloom, but bees have gathered little honey from it so far. Asters will begin within the next week or ten days. Robbing by bees has been serious in some sections.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Sept.11-Sept.27)

Georgia. In south Georgia bees are in good condition, having built up on Mexican clover. However, little surplus has been obtained from this source so far. The Mexican clover flow is expected to continue and possibly improve in some sections. Bitterweed and asters are now coming on. Pollen is plentiful and many young bees are emerging. Prospects are that bees will go into winter quarters in better condition than a year ago. No honey sales were reported, but beeswax sold at the ceiling of 43 1/2¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Florida. For the State as a whole bees are in good condition. A fair crop was obtained from cabbage palmetto. Fall flowers are just beginning to bloom. In most sections fall plants are in good condition and if weather permits a fairly good flow may be expected. Demand for honey has been heavy. Sales f.o.b. shipping point per lb. extracted - Black Mangrove in barrels 12¢. Beeswax 41 1/2¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Alabama. Some rain fell over southern Alabama during the early part of the period. Bees in this section have made some gains from boneset and bitterweed. Aster plants have made a good growth, but recent cool weather seems to have retarded blooming. Bees are in generally good condition. In southern Alabama little fall feeding should be necessary, but in northern Alabama where it has been both dry and cool during much of the summer many bees are short in stores.

Louisiana. Heavy rains during the period September 16-20 thoroughly soaked the ground and stopped all bee yard activity for about a week. While some nectar was brought in, scale colonies lost a little weight during this period. Goldenrod has not been producing especially heavy. Some nectar is being obtained from fall beans in northern Louisiana. Pollen is being collected from ragweed, smartweed, snowvine, tievine, and other minor sources. Most colonies are in good shape, with plenty of stores and young bees. In northern Louisiana some increase is being made this fall with package bees. This is an unusual procedure in this section of the State and is being watched with interest. Most honey is being sold locally in small containers at ceiling or near ceiling levels. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted - Mixed Flowers in barrels 12¢.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the last of September. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: Arrivals: extracted 850 cases Iowa, 800 cases Ohio. All brokers' sales to jobbers and large retailers on f.o.b. basis. Nothing available on the spot market. Dealers state supplies very difficult to obtain.

COMB: No supplies on market.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by rail, origin not specified 1 car; by truck 3,530 lbs. Ill., 20,000 lbs. Iowa, 3,000 lbs. Mich., 1,500 lbs. Minn.

COMB: Supplies very light. Demand moderate, market firm. Sales to retailers- CENTRALWESTERN, cases 24-sections White Clover cellophane-wrapped, few sales in small lots \$6.50.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand far exceeds available supply, market firm. Sales to bakers and other large users - MICHIGAN, White Clover few 14¢.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers buying for country run stock 41½-43½¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

DENVER: Receipts: extracted approximately 26,500 lbs., comb 35 cases, wax 2,000 lbs. all Colorado. Demand good, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers and direct to large retail outlets - COLORADO, Alfalfa-White Sweetclover, White to Water White, glass jars cases 12, 5-lb. \$10.12-10.18; 12, 2-lb. \$4.70-4.76; 24, 1-lb. \$5.04-5.10; 24, half pound \$2.77-2.80.

COMB: Demand exceeds supply, market steady. Sales to retailers- COLORADO, Fancy cellophane - wrapped 12-oz. \$6.00-6.50.

MINNEAPOLIS: No arrivals reported; 100 lbs. beeswax arrived.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand very good, market firm at ceiling prices. Sales to wholesale grocers - U. S. No. 1, blended honey 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.27; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.40; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.57; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$5.72; sales to retail grocers- 24, 6-oz. jars \$2.54; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.93; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$6.50.

BEESWAX: Supplies very light. Demand very good, market firm. Sales f.o.b. beekeepers for domestic crude, Light Yellow cash 41½¢, in trade 43½¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Arrivals: by rail 51,761 lbs. Fla.; 36,600 lbs. Calif. and 12,000 lbs. origin not specified via New York. No sales reported.

BEESWAX: No offerings.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: 63,000 lbs. Calif., origin not specified 119,500 lbs. and 6 cars; by truck 8,000 lbs. Pa., 5100 lbs. N.Y. Supplies light. Demand exceeds supply, market at ceiling, few sales.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers and manufacturers - CALIFORNIA, Light Amber Sage and Light Amber Alfalfa 16-16½¢. Imported, practically all sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling prices. IMPORTED, re-processed 1500 lbs. or less 16½¢; 1500-20,000 lbs. 15½¢; 20,000 lbs. or more 14¢. PENNSYLVANIA and NEW YORK, Buckwheat f.o.b. country shipping point by dealers- 14¢ in cans; 13½¢ in kegs.

BEESEWAX: Supplies extremely light. Demand exceeds supply. Very limited offerings, market firm. Sales by receivers port of entry- SOUTH AMERICA and WEST INDIES, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢; non-sun-bleachable 41½¢.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck, extracted 7,485 lbs. bottled Midwestern. Demand good, no offerings.

PORTLAND: Receipts: via motor truck, Extracted, from Oregon Clover-Vetch 185, 60-lb. cans; Fireweed 34, 60-lb. cans; comb, from Idaho 737 cases. Supplies continue light, with demand exceeding supply. The market holds firm at ceiling prices. Sales to retailers and other large buyers in case lots -

EXTRACTED: OREGON, IDAHO and CALIFORNIA, 12, 5-lb. jars \$10.52-10.58; 24, 1-lb. glass jars \$5.89-6.13. Bulk in 60-lb. cans: IDAHO, Sweetclover-Alfalfa 17¢. OREGON, Clover-vetch and Fireweed 15¢.

COMB: Supplies light. Demand active. Sales to retailers - IDAHO, Sweet-clover-Alfalfa, 12-oz. U. S. No. 2, \$8.60-8.80 per case.

BEESEWAX: Supplies moderate. Demand moderate, prices unchanged with dealers paying 41½¢ per lb.

ST. LOUIS: No offerings or trading reported. Market nominally unchanged from last report.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND AND ALAMEDA: Receipts via truck- Central Calif. 379 cases Extra Light Amber to White Alfalfa; 579 cases Extra Light Amber to White Blue Curl; 416 cases Light Amber Buckwheat; 47 cases Amber Carrot; 101 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers; 107 cases Extra Light Amber Orange Mixture; North Calif.- 104 cases White Clover, 273 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers, 1,181 cases Extra Light Amber to White Thistle; Southern Calif.- 374 cases White to Extra White Sage; 25 cases Extra Light Amber Sage-Buckwheat; origin not specified 41,837 lbs. Light Amber Mixed Flowers.

EXTRACTED: CENTRAL AMERICA, Light Amber Mixed Flowers 11½¢ per lb. delivered San Francisco dock.

THE 1943 CANADIAN HONEY CROP -(By Dominion Bureau of Statistics - Canada)

The 1943 honey crop is tentatively estimated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at 32.5 million pounds. This first estimate is based on reports as of September 15 furnished by provincial apiarists and marketing organizations and is subject to revision when data on extracting operations are complete. The 1943 crop was one of the best on record. It exceeded the 1942 crop of 24.1 million pounds by 8.4 millions or 35 percent and the 10-year (1932-41) average production of 27.3 millions by 19 percent. Although there was a slight decline in the number of producing colonies this year the average yield was 78 pounds per colony as compared with only 56 pounds in 1942 and the long-term average yield of 70 pounds. About 28 million pounds, or 87 percent of the crop was light honey.

One-third of the total Canadian crop was produced in Ontario where production is estimated at 12 million pounds as compared with the short crop of 7.8 million pounds in the year previous. Production in the Prairie Provinces totalled about 14 million pounds, which is considerably in excess of the 10.6 million pounds produced in 1942. A good crop of approximately 5 million pounds of honey was extracted in Quebec. Production in British Columbia was estimated at 1.3 million pounds, which is slightly less than the amount produced in 1942. Production in the Maritime Provinces was less than in the previous year.

About 50 percent of the crop had already been marketed when retail sales of honey were suspended by government order prior to the introduction of coupon rationing for this commodity effective September 2. Prior to that date the greater proportion of sales had been made direct to the consumer with very little honey moving through normal trade channels.

Honey Production in Canada, 1934 to 1943

	<u>Production Pounds</u>	<u>Index of Production (1934-39 -100)</u>
1934	27,063,000	91.0
1935	26,815,000	90.1
1936	31,938,000	107.4
1937	23,197,000	78.0
1938	37,910,000	127.4
1939	28,873,000	97.1
1940	23,671,000	79.6
1941	27,472,000	92.4
1942	24,086,000	80.9
1943 1/	32,520,000	109.3

1/ Preliminary.

Released October 5, 1943.

WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
Food Distribution Administration

Washington 25, D. C.
October 15, 1945.

Telephone - REpublic 4142,
Extension 2178.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - NO. 610.

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

SUMMARY

In most sections of the country the fall honey flows were favorable, giving colonies an opportunity to build up and add considerably to their winter stores. While killing frosts over much of the northern and eastern States held off later than normally cool weather during late September and early October drastically reduced the flow. The weather has been ideal for beeyard work in most sections. A large proportion of the crop has been removed from the hives, in some sections extracting is fairly well completed, and hive packing operations are getting under way. Labor shortages have been a retarding factor in nearly all sections, especially among the large commercial operators.

In general colonies are in good condition with strong populations of young bees and ample stores. In some portions of the North-Central States some fall feeding is being done.

It is becoming increasingly evident that the crop will again be below normal this season and that it will clean up very early. A much smaller proportion of the crop than normally is moving through the hands of regular dealers and packers. Consumer demand for 60s has been heavy and many producers who

formerly sold to large users are now packing in small containers and selling direct to retailers or consumers. The quality of this year's crop is good although in some of the Intermountain and Northwest districts it is darker than usual while some of honey from the clover belt is of rather a light body.

CALIFORNIA POINES: (Period Sept. 23-Oct. 8)

Southern California. Prevailing temperatures in southern California were generally normal during the first half of October, with some fog and cloudiness. The foothill areas received a limited amount of rainfall during the first week in October. Brush fires in San Diego County burned over about 30,000 acres. Only local movement of bees took place. Bees are generally in good condition, with fairly ample winter stores. Some honey is being gathered from blue curls and pollen from mustard and rabbitbrush. In some limited areas along the coast a little surplus has been gathered from a late second bloom on sweetclover, which in some localities has been quite heavy. Demand for honey continues far in excess of the available supply. Stocks of honey, especially those in the hands of beekeepers, are generally light. Sales f.o.b. country points ten lots or more extracted Sage-Buckwheat, Buckwheat, and Orange \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds. Beeswax supplies were moderate, with an active demand at the ceiling of 41¢ per lb. cash and 43¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. country points.

Imperial Valley. The weather has been unseasonably warm. Tamarisk trees are still blooming, but this flow will soon be over. Some pollen is being gathered from milo maize. Bees have plentiful stores of pollen at this time and sufficient honey to carry them over the winter. A large percentage of the honey in the Valley has already been sold. Sales f.o.b. country points ten lots or more - Alfalfa \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds.

Central California. Temperatures averaged somewhat above normal. The blue curls flow was fairly good, although the plants in some sections were small, and the flow closed about ten days earlier than usual. In the valleys a little honey is still being obtained from cotton, blue curls, spikewood, and sunflowers. In the mountains some honeydew was obtained from fir, willow, snowbrush, and honey from a little late buckwheat. In general colonies are in good condition for winter with plentiful supplies of both pollen and honey, and many young bees. Honey has moved well. Extracting is still lagging in some districts, and

deliveries are behind schedule as many beekeepers are short of labor. Sales f.o.b. shipping point per lb. extracted - Alfalfa, Blue Curls, Buckwheat, Cotton-Alfalfa, Sage, and Mixed Flowers 12¢. Beeswax, offerings of beeswax have been light at ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Northern California. The flow in northern California is practically over. In most sections yields have been somewhat below normal. Spikeweed is in especially poor condition. A little honey is still being obtained from yellow star thistle, morning glory, spikeweed, alfalfa, and California poppy. In the tomato sections many colonies are weak as the result of arsenical poisoning. Shortage of help has delayed extracting. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted Thistle, Alfalfa, and Mixed Flowers Extra Light Amber to Amber 12¢.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period Sept. 23-Oct. 8)

West of Cascades. This period opened with cooler weather and high fogs, while the latter portion of the period was warmer than normal. There were light rains in most sections and frosts in the higher altitudes. In most sections the ground is still too dry for best progress of clover and also for fall grain and vetch planting. Colony condition is generally good, with plenty of honey and pollen and strong populations. Honey plants are in good condition. Indications are that there will be a heavy planting of vetch in the Willamette Valley. Honey is moving well locally. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted White Fireweed in single 60s 15¢. Comb Mixed Flowers Light No. 1, \$6.00 per case.

East of Cascades. The weather continues warm and dry over much of eastern Washington. Plants are in better than average condition and hive conditions are also good, with ample stores and good populations. The crop for the section as a whole has been largely extracted and yield is running somewhat below normal. Sales f.o.b. shipping point per lb. extracted Alfalfa-Clover in single 60s 15¢.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period Sept. 25-Oct. 9)

The honey season in this region is about over. Temperatures have been higher than normal for this time of year over most of the area. Bees in general have good stocks of winter stores. Most colonies are in good shape for winter. In some sections, however, beekeepers anticipate some winter feeding. The heavy demand for honey continues from both large lot buyers and consumer trade. Packers' representatives are very active. A large portion of the crop has already been moved and reports are that little honey will remain in beekeepers hands by early 1944. Many beekeepers are packing their entire crop in small containers for the retail and consumer trade. Comb honey is scarce. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted, Clover-Alfalfa, in carlots 12¢ with cans furnished, 11½¢ with cans returned; in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 17¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢. Comb Fancy cellophane-wrapped \$6.00 per case. Beeswax 41½¢ cash, and 43½¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Colorado. Weather in this section has been variable. Some sections on the Western Slope reported ideal weather. Areas east of the mountains need moisture. Frost in the latter days of the period stopped any further flow. Condition of honey plants is fair. Bees are mostly in fairly good condition with good winter stores. Some weaker colonies, however, will have to be fed. Extracting is mostly completed over the entire section. Yields up to 125 pounds per colony have been reported for the eastern section of the State. On the Western Slope production is varied with some beekeepers reporting only about 50 percent of normal yields and others as high as 120 pound surplus.

Wyoming. Weather has been warm and dry during the days and cool with some frosts at night. Extracting has been completed by most large producers. Yields are spotted over the State, with both good and poor yields reported. Production for the State as a whole is expected to be slightly below that of last year. Bees appear to be in good condition. Broodrearing is tapering off rapidly. Most colonies have fair stores for winter use, but some bees will have to be fed. Robbing has been bad in some yards. In some localities bee men have already prepared bees for winter.

Montana. Rains during the period relieved the dry condition somewhat but too late to aid honey plants to any great extent. Nights have been rather cool with days warm and summer like. Bees are in fair condition and appear to have adequate stores for winter.

Idaho. Temperatures in this section ranged above normal throughout most of the period. Several light frosts occurred but no killing frosts. Bees continue to gather pollen and occasionally a little nectar from scattered bloom. The fall flow added some honey to the previously short flow. Colonies are in generally good condition for winter with ample stores. Some beekeepers have already prepared their bees for winter.

Utah. Dry weather with above normal temperatures prevailed in this section. Early cutting of the last alfalfa crop stopped the flow from this source abruptly about the middle of September. Bees in some sections gathered considerable nectar from sweetclover and some beekeepers reported surpluses as high as 125 pounds. The overall average, however, will run considerably lower than this figure.

Nevada. The honey season is over in Nevada. No changes appear likely in the earlier estimates of the production of around 30 pounds per colony. Bees are in good condition and some beekeepers are already preparing bees for winter.

ARIZONA: (Sept. 25-Oct. 9)

In southeastern Arizona bees are still bringing in some honey and pollen, although cool weather has cut flights to short periods during the middle of the day. Extracting is practically completed in this area. Additional moisture is needed to put plants in good condition. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb.- Alfalfa-Mesquite in case to ton lots mostly 12¢, in single 60s 12½¢-13¢; in small pails 17½¢.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period Sept. 25-Oct. 11)

East Texas. Bees have been storing some honey during the latter part of this period and with a little more good weather they should go into winter in good condition. Most colonies now have good clusters and sufficient stores for winter, although some yards not within the reach of cotton and asters are somewhat short.

Southeast Texas. Goldenrod and other fall flowers are opening but the soil is so dry that bees are obtaining little but pollen. Asters are scarce and colonies that were extracted too closely may need some feeding to prepare them for winter.

Central Texas. Bees are in generally good condition. Good recent rainfall has improved fall plants and given promise of ample winter stores.

Western and Southwestern Texas. Rains have improved honey plant prospects for next year. Nights are cool but bees are still bringing in a little nectar and considerable pollen from cotton and sunflower. Bees should go into the winter with a good supply of young bees and ample winter stores. Considerable honey is still on the hives due to shortages of help. Much of the honey so far extracted is already in the hands of dealers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb.- Extracted in case to ton lots Whitebrush 11½¢; Mixed Flowers, per case of 12, 5-lb. pails \$10.12.

Arkansas. Bees have been working on heartsease and goldenrod. Asters are just beginning to bloom. Little rain has fallen since early September so fall plants generally are not in too favorable condition. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, extracted - Mixed Flowers in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢ per lb.

PLAINS AREA: (Period Sept. 25-Oct. 11)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. Most of the Red River Valley was unseasonably warm during this period. It is still dry, and young clover plants are suffering from lack of moisture. Bees have been able to fly almost daily. Little nectar is available, but some pollen is being gathered. Broodrearing has been light, although some colonies with young queens again have small patches of eggs and open brood after having been entirely broodless for about a month. Most colonies are in good condition, with good forces and ample stores. Extracting is fairly well completed and some beekeepers are already preparing their yards for winter. Demand for honey has been unusually good. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb.- Extracted, Clover in carlots 12¢; Clover and Mixed Flowers in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 18¢. Comb Mixed Flowers No. 2, few sales \$4.30.

Iowa. Most of the crop in Iowa is already in the honey house. In some sections the yield has been even lighter than previously anticipated. The crop was very spotted, ranging from 10 to 100 pounds surplus per colony, with some beekeepers having no surplus beyond winter stores. Weather conditions are favorable. There have been a number of light frosts but fall flowers are still blooming and furnishing good pasturage of both nectar and pollen on warm days. Some sections of the State are extremely dry for newly planted clover. Colonies are in generally good condition, with sufficient stores for a normal winter. Some beekeepers plan on wintering only the strongest colonies. Weaker colonies will be killed off and replaced with packages next spring.

Nebraska. Very dry weather continues over much of Nebraska. In some sections this has injured clover plants, while in others young clover is still in good condition. Frosts in early September cut off nearly all sources of nectar. With the mild weather now prevailing bees have been flying almost daily, which has resulted in a heavy consumption of stores. Broodrearing has been rather light. The honey crop so far extracted seems to be running somewhat lighter than normal. Various beekeepers report crops all the way from one-third of normal to normal. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Sweetclover in case lots to ton lots 12¢, in small pails 20¢.

Kansas. The honey flows are over for the season, but some pollen is still available. Broodrearing is decreasing in most sections. The fall flow was about normal. In general colonies are in very good condition, with sufficient honey stores. While there has been little or no rain in most sections of Kansas during October, rainfall during September was sufficient to put honey plants in fairly good condition for next year.

Missouri. In eastern Missouri the weather has been very favorable for bee flights and bee yard activity, although it has been a little too dry to maintain most favorable plant conditions. The fall flow in this section was good and some additional winter stores are still being obtained. In fact the fall flow represented the principal portion of the crop this year. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Heartsease, case to ton lots 12¢.

CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period Sept. 27-Oct. 12)

Michigan. On the northern Peninsula extracting is practically completed and bees are ready for the cellars. The weather has been unseasonably warm and dry. The honey crop on the northern peninsula is figured only around 25 percent of normal, but the quality is very good, light-colored and of a heavy body. On the southern peninsula it has been dry, but the weather has been ideal for finishing up bee work. Extracting will be completed before the end of this month. Nearly all reporters indicate the crop for Michigan will be considerably below normal. Very little honey was obtained from the fall flow. Bees are going into winter in about normal condition, but somewhat better than a year ago. Most colonies have fairly plentiful stores, although some beekeepers report that they have gassed a portion of their colonies because shortage of stores. Buyers have been active in Michigan but no sales were reported.

Wisconsin. The weather has been unseasonably warm and the soil is becoming quite dry. Considerable rain will be needed before the ground freezes in order to put honey plants in best condition. The fall flow has been light and with the warm weather consumption of stores has been unusually heavy. Some colonies are already short of stores and many beekeepers are feeding considerable sugar syrup before packing bees for winter. Some beekeepers report a high percentage of queenless colonies. Among colonies with queens broodrearing has been quite active. Extracting is fairly well completed in most sections and a large proportion of the crop is already out of beekeepers hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted Clover in carlots 12¢, in case to ton lots mostly 12¢, some with cans furnished by buyer 11½¢; in single 60s 12-15¢, mostly 14-15¢, in small pails 19¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢.

Minnesota. The weather during most of this period has been warm and dry - not too favorable for plants but ideal for fall honey work. The crop has been largely extracted and is generally somewhat short of earlier expectations. A large proportion of the crop has been disposed of, with a high percentage moving locally. While most colonies are fairly strong, food stores are rather light and a large proportion of the beekeepers will be forced to feed their bees heavily this fall when preparing them for winter. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Sweetclover in case to ton lots 12-15¢, mostly 12¢, in single 60s 14-15¢, in small pails 19-21¢.

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Ohio. Little or no rain has fallen during recent weeks, contrasting with the wet summer. Nights have been cool, but bees have been able to work a few hours on most days. The aster flow has been good in most sections which will provide ample stores for wintering. However, in some localities stores are short and considerable fall and winter feeding may be necessary. In most sections colony strength is favorable. Extracting is about completed and beekeepers are preparing for winter. Many beekeepers who normally sold to the wholesale trade are packing in small containers and selling directly to retailers or consumers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢, in small pails 20¢; Buckwheat, in case to ton lots 12¢; Mixed Fall flowers in single 60s 12¢. Comb - Buckwheat, No. 1, \$6.00 per case; No. 2, \$5.00; some poor quality \$4.00. Beeswax 43¢ in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Indiana. Warm, clear weather with very favorable plant conditions have provided bees with considerable fall honey from asters. Broodrearing has been prolonged so that most colonies will go into winter with good populations and ample stores. Demand for honey far exceeds the supply, with a large proportion of the crop so far extracted moving directly to consumers in small containers.

Illinois. The weather has been very favorable for the heartsease and aster flows, but has been too dry for best progress of next season's honey plants. In most sections broodrearing is continuing and with fairly large amounts of fall honey being put away bees should go into winter in fairly good condition. In some sections where heartsease and aster were not plentiful colonies are in only fair condition and considerable fall and winter feeding may be necessary. Honey demand has been good. Fall crop honey has sold on a par with Clover honey despite the fact that it is unusually dark. Sales f.o.b. per lb. - Clover in carlots 12¢, in single 60s 13-15¢, mostly 15¢; Mixed Flowers in single 60s 12-14¢, in small pails 16¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 20¢. Comb-Clover No. 1, \$6.00 per case. Beeswax 41¢ cash, and 43¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Kentucky. In western Kentucky along the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers the best fall flow in a number of years is reported from Spanish needle, goldenrod, and asters. Some colonies in good conditions have stored 50-75 pounds from these sources. In eastern Kentucky continued drought and cool weather have severely curtailed the fall flow. In this section much feeding will be necessary. No honey sales were reported, but beeswax sold at the ceiling of 41¢ per lb. cash, and 43¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Sept. 23-Oct. 13)

New York. Dry weather continues throughout most sections of the state and rain is needed badly. Beemen are concerned about prospects for next seasons honey plants. Frosts occurred early in the period but warm days later permitted bees to gather small amounts of nectar from aster. Yields from the fall flow were in general lower than expected although some beekeepers reported unusual surpluses in favorably located yards. Most colonies will go into winter in better than normal condition with heavy stores and plenty of young bees. Feeding will be necessary where honey was extracted too closely and some ~~bees have already~~ begun feeding sugar syrup. Some large producers of buckwheat honey have not yet taken their crop from the hives and extracting has been delayed due to labor shortages. Demand is good and a considerable portion of the honey crop is going into consumer and retail channels. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, White Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢, few 15¢, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 18-19 1/3¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 20¢. Buckwheat, in case to ton lots 12¢, a few 14¢, in single 60s 15¢. Comb - Fancy Clover \$6.75-7.00 per case of 24 sections; Buckwheat \$5.00-7.00 per case.

Vermont. Several hard freezes during the period killed off most of the nectar producing plants. Days were clear and sunny most of the time and beekeepers took advantage of the ideal weather to do their feeding and packing. These winter preparations are progressing nicely. Demand exceeds supply and beekeepers are having difficulty supplying even their regular retail customers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted Clover in small pails 17¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢.

Connecticut. The flow from goldenrod stopped early in the period. Aster was plentiful and bees worked steadily on this source for about ten days. Colonies appear to be in good condition with fairly strong populations and ample stores for good wintering. American Foulbrood has been reported to have caused the loss of many colonies in this section. Demand for honey is brisk and most supplies are expected to be out of producers hands earlier than usual.

New Jersey. Weather continues dry throughout the state and rain is needed, badly in some sections. Heavy frosts in north Jersey killed off most remaining honey plants but in the southern section only light frosts have occurred and bees continue to bring in a little nectar and pollen from asters. Some beekeepers report the fall flow from asters and goldenrod the best in years. Bees are in fairly good condition with full brood nests and strong populations. There is a good demand for honey with large lot buyers offering ceiling prices for all grades.

Pennsylvania. Drought has been severe in the central part of this area. Frequent killing frosts have also occurred and the condition of clover seedlings is doubtful. Beekeepers are much concerned about prospects for next season. Forest fires have been serious in some local areas. The fall honey flow was short. Colonies appear to be in good condition and broodrearing continues normally. Feeding will have to be done in some yards for bees to winter well. Honey is selling well, mostly to retail and consumer trade. Many beekeepers have already sold all of their honey. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb.-- Extracted Clover case to ton lots 12¢.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period Sept. 28-Oct. 13)

Maryland. Much of Maryland still remains very dry. Rains in eastern Maryland have helped some, but much additional rain will be needed to carry most plants through the winter. In western Maryland extreme drought prevails. Frosts have killed tender plants in exposed places, but goldenrod and asters are still yielding on warm days. The fall flow has been extremely light. Many colonies are rather weak and much winter feeding will be necessary in most sections of the State. A few sales of bulk comb honey in small containers were reported at 20¢ per lb.

West Virginia. In western West Virginia drought has checked all bee activity. However, hives are very well filled with early gathered honey. In the mountains of eastern West Virginia the fall flow has been the best in several years. In some places from 15-25 pounds surplus was obtained from asters. This section is also dry. A few sales of bulk comb honey in small containers were reported at 20¢ per lb.

Virginia. In the Tidewater section the fall honey flow, which is practically over, has been about the average of the past few seasons. Broodchambers are well filled with both honey and pollen and bees seem to be in excellent condition for winter. Flavor and color of the honey in this section are good. In the Richmond area the fall flow was disappointing, while in the Roanoke area there was practically no surplus for the entire season. The drought in northern Virginia is becoming serious. The flow of many large streams and springs has been drastically reduced.

North Carolina. In the Wilmington area bees are generally in good condition, with heavy stores. On warm days a fair flow continues from goldenrod and other fall flowers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Light Amber Mixed Flowers in small containers 15¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

South Carolina. A good aster flow began around October 5th. Goldenrod is still yielding some nectar. There has been little or no rain over much of South Carolina for several weeks.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Sept. 27-Oct. 12)

Georgia. Recent weeks have been rather cool, windy, and dry, so that bees have not been able to take full advantage of the flow from fall flowers. Mexican clover and bitterweed yielded through September. Mexican clover is still yielding well on warm days, but the flow from bitterweed is over. Golden aster began producing around Sept. 20 and other varieties of aster are now in bloom. Broodnests are fairly well filled with honey, but little has been stored in the supers. Pollen supplies have been plentiful. In general colony populations are strong, with many young bees. Conditions have been good for queen rearing and requeening. The weather has been excellent for manipulation of colonies. Many beekeepers are building up their weaker colonies and equalizing

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stores. Little honey is available and the only sales reported were on extracted Amber Poplar in small pails at 20¢ per lb.

Florida. In north Florida the season has been quite favorable, and bees have gathered considerable nectar and pollen from goldenrod, sunflower, purslane, and other fall flowers. Little surplus has been obtained, however. In south Florida excessive rain has kept bees from working much of the time with the result that little nectar has been gathered. Bees are in better than normal condition for winter, especially in the northern part of the State. However, the number of colonies which will be wintered-over is expected to be somewhat lighter than usual. Package orders for next spring delivery are coming in rapidly. Demand for honey has been good, but offerings by beekeepers have been rather light. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb.- Amber Mixed Flowers in case to ton lots and in barrels 12¢, in small pails 15¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 16¢; Tupelo, in small pails 17½¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Alabama. The fall has been dry over most of Alabama. However, bees have been storing some honey from boneset, aster, and bitterweed. Bees are in generally good condition, with plenty of young bees for winter and if killing frosts do not occur during the next two or three weeks bees should obtain ample winter stores in most sections.

Mississippi. The fall flow from bitterweed in eastern Mississippi has been the heaviest in a good many years. Most colonies are well-stocked with young bees and with good supplies of fall honey now being stored should winter well. Queen rearing, as well as demand for queens, is about over for this season.

Louisiana. In northern Louisiana the fall flow has been the heaviest in several years. One large beekeeper reports his scale colonies have gained an average of five pounds a day during early October. In this section bees are in good condition for winter, both from the standpoint of population and stores. In southern Louisiana the goldenrod flow is just becoming active. Weather conditions have been very favorable, and plant conditions are good. Pollen has been gathered at a more rapid rate than normal from goldenrod, boneset, ragweed, smartweed, and other minor plants. Bees are in generally good condition with good populations of young bees and ample stores in most cases, although some yards are still a little light in stores. Orders for package bees for next spring's shipment continue heavy and some beekeepers are already booked to capacity. Some package producers have raised prices slightly for 1944.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the middle of October. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: Arrivals: extracted 20 cans of 60 lbs. each Wis. All brokers' sales to jobbers and large retailers on f.o.b. basis. Nothing available on the spot market. Dealers state supplies very difficult to obtain.

COLEB: No supplies on market.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by truck 5,826 lbs. Ill.; no rail receipts reported.

COMB: Supplies very light. Demand moderate, market firm. Sales to retailers - ILLINOIS, cases White Clover cellophane-wrapped, few sales in small lots \$6.50.

EXTRACTED: Practically no supplies on market. Sales to bakers and other large users - ILLINOIS, few 2-lb. jars White Clover \$4.76 per doz.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 41½¢-43¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

DENVER: Receipts: extracted approximately 29,000 lbs., comb 55 cases, wax 500 lbs. all Colo.

EXTRACTED: Demand good, market steady. Sales to jobbers and direct to large retail outlets- COLORADO, Alfalfa-White Sweetclover, White to Water White, glass jars cases 12, 5-lb. \$10.12-10.18; 12, 2-lb. \$4.70-4.76; 24, 1-lb. \$5.04-5.10; 24, half-pound \$2.77-2.80.

COMB: Demand exceeds supply, market steady. Sales to retailers - COLORADO; Fancy cellophane-wrapped 12-oz. \$6.00-6.50.

BEESWAX: Demand good, market steady.

MINNEAPOLIS: No arrivals reported.

EXTRACTED: Supplies light. Demand very good, market firm at ceiling prices. Sales to wholesale grocers- U. S. No. 1, Blended honey 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.57; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$5.72. Sales to retail grocers - 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.93; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$6.50.

COMB: No sales reported.

BEESWAX: Supplies very light. Demand very good, market firm. Sales f.o.b. beekeepers- Domestic crude, Light Yellow, cash 41½¢, in trade 43½¢.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: 101,500 lbs. Calif., origin not specified 48,600 lbs.

Supplies light. Demand exceeds supply, market at ceiling, few sales.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers and manufacturers - CALIFORNIA, no sales reported. IMPORTED, practically all sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling prices.

IMPORTED, Re-processed 1500 lbs. or less 16½¢, 1500-20,000 lbs. 15½¢; 20,000 lbs. or more 14¢.

BEESWAX: Supplies very light. Very limited offerings. Demand exceeds supply, market firm. Sales by receivers port of entry- SOUTH AMERICA and WEST INDIES, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢, non-sun bleachable 41½¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Arrivals: by rail, strained Iowa 60,000 lbs. White Clover, origin not specified 24,000 lbs. various flavors. No sales reported.

BEESWAX: No receipts and no sales reported.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck, extracted 2,280 lbs. bottled Midwestern. Demand good, no offerings.

PORTLAND: Receipts: extracted via motor truck - from Oregon Sweetclover-Alfalfa 54, 60-lb. cans; Clover-Vetch 76 cases, 12, 2½-lb. glass and 50 cases 24, 8-oz. glass; from Idaho 130 cases 12, 5-lb. glass jars; via rail 100 barrels origin unknown. Supplies light, with active demand for all grades and packages. Prices firm at ceiling levels. Sales to retailers and other large buyers in case lots-

EXTRACTED: OREGON and IDAHO, Sweetclover-Alfalfa 12, 5-lb. jars \$12.48-12.52; Correction: in reports for Sept. 1 Sept. 15 and Oct. 1 price for 12, 5-lb. jars should have read \$12.52-12.58 instead as published; 12, 2½-lb. glass jars \$6.60-6.81; 24, 8-oz. glass \$3.30; bulk 15-17¢ per lb.

COMB: No supplies.

BEESWAX: Supplies moderate. Market unchanged. Dealers paying 41½¢ per lb.

ST. LOUIS: Receipts very light. Demand moderate, market steady. Sales by commission merchants to retailers-

EXTRACTED: ARIZONA and CALIFORNIA, Mixed Flowers Light Amber 60-lb. tins, per lb. f.o.b. shipping point- very few 15¢; Mescal Light Amber very few 13 3/4¢.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND AND ALAMEDA: Receipts at Bay Cities by truck- Central California - 338 cases Extra Light Amber to White Alfalfa, 605 cases White Blue Curls, 559 cases Light to Extra Light Amber Buckwheat, 205 cases Light Amber Cotton-Alfalfa, 130 cases White to Extra White Sage, 767 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers; Northern California- 1,849 cases Extra Light Amber to White Thistle, 154 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers; Nevada - 126 cases White Clover; 220 cases comb honey.

WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
Food Distribution Administration

Telephone - REpublic 4142,
Extension 2176.

Washington 25, D. C.
November 1, 1943.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - NO. 611

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

SUMMARY

While October temperatures over most of the country with the exception of the northwestern quarter were normal or slightly below normal, killing frosts in most sections have occurred somewhat later than normal which has had the effect of extending the fall honey flows. Except for a little pasturage being obtained in the southern belt of States, this season's flows are now all ended. Extracting in most areas is practically completed and hive packing operations in those States where special winter protection is needed are progressing fairly well. Labor shortages continue to be a factor both in extracting operations and in preparing bees for winter. For the country as a whole colony conditions are much better than a year ago, with fairly good clusters and in most cases ample winter stores. In some sections where the fall flow was light and consumption of honey fairly heavy considerable sugar sirup has been fed in preparing bees for winter. In portions of the North Central and Plains Areas additional rainfall is needed to put the soil and winter plants in prime condition for winter. In most other sections sufficient rain has fallen to place plants in fairly good condition. Reports continue to come in from the southern package bee and queen producing areas of heavy orders for next spring's delivery. In fact many large producers are already booked to capacity. The demand for honey continues far in excess of supply, both from packers and local retailers and consumers. In many sections the crop will be almost entirely out of the beekeepers' hands by the first of the year. Packers in most cases have been unable to obtain sufficient honey to carry on their full normal packing operations.

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period Oct. 8-Oct. 23)

Southern California. Bees are generally in good condition for winter with adequate stores of honey and pollen. In the foothills areas bees are reported rather quiet with most colonies having little brood. In the orchard sections bees are active, flying every day that weather permits. A little nectar and pollen is being gathered from mustard and eucalyptus and other fall honey plants of this section. Little honey remains in the hands of beekeepers. Demand continues to exceed supply. Large buyers are active attempting to buy even small lots not already sold or contracted for. Sales f.o.b. country points per case of 120 lbs., extracted: Sage-Buckwheat, Buckwheat, Orange and Mixed Flowers \$14.40. Beeswax 41½¢ cash, 43½¢ per lb. trade, f.o.b. country points.

Imperial Valley. No reports were received on plant or colony conditions. Sales f.o.b. country points, extracted: Alfalfa \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds.

Central California. The first slight frost of the season occurred late in the period. Nights were rather cool and days warm. Precipitation was general except in the desert regions. Most colonies in this section are in excellent condition for winter. A few colonies located in yards extracted too closely will have to be fed. Some beekeepers are already feeding weak colonies. Extracting is mostly completed. Large lot buyers are active and the demand for honey is brisk. Supplies are light. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted: Alfalfa, Alfalfa-Blue Curls, Blue Curls, Blue Curls-Cotton-Spikeweed, Carrot, and Mixed Flowers 12¢. The demand for beeswax has been very active at ceiling levels of 41½¢ cash f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Northern California. Temperatures were above normal during the first part of the period and below normal during the latter days. Rainfall was reported general over most of the section. The fall flow is over in this section and indications are that yields will be somewhat below normal. Bees

are still gathering some honey, however, from scattered fall flowers. Colonies in general are reported to be in very good condition with ample winter stores. Package-bee orders in this section have been unusually early and heavy. It is possible that package bee shippers will have sold their entire capacity long before the shipping season starts. The demand for honey is strong for practically any grade or type. Receipts by bottlers have been light, however. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted: Thistle and Mixed Flowers 12¢,

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period Oct. 8-Oct. 23)

West of Cascades. Frequent soaking rains and below normal temperatures were the rule in this section during this period. The additional moisture greatly improved the general condition of honey plants, especially clover. Most colonies are in fairly good condition but some of these are light in stores and will have to be fed. Some yards were troubled by excessive late swarming. Demand for honey is good and many beekeepers have already sold their entire crop. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted: Fireweed and Clover-Vetch 15¢.

East of Cascades. Weather in this section has been rainy and cool. Frosts early in the period stopped the flow from most honey sources. However, plants were greatly benefitted by the additional moisture and prospects for next year are improved. Colonies in this section are in fairly good condition with ample stores for winter. Some beekeepers, in the Kittitas and Lower Yakima Valley, reported severe damage to bees from airplane dusting of potatoes. Some of the larger beekeepers are still being delayed in extracting because of labor shortages. The demand for honey is good and a large part of the crop already extracted has been sold. Sales were mostly small lots to local consumers and retailers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point per lb. extracted: Alfalfa-Clover, in single 60s 15¢; in glass jars 18¢.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period Oct. 9-Oct. 23)

Temperatures over much of this region have been somewhat below normal during this period. Light to moderately heavy rains were rather general with some snow reported on the higher levels. Colonies are generally in good condition for winter with sufficient stores and a fair population of young bees. Many beekeepers have finished preparing their bees for winter. Some of the larger commercial beemen are experiencing serious difficulties in ^{adequate} getting help for these operations. The demand for honey continues heavy from both large lot buyers and the retail trade. A large part of this season's crop has already moved from producers' hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point per lb. extracted, Clover-Alfalfa, in carlots 12¢; in case to ton lots 12¢, some 13-14¢ 11½¢ cans returned; in single 60s 15¢, a few 12¢; in small pails 17-19¢, a few 15¢. Beeswax 41½¢ cash; 43½¢ in trade, per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Colorado. Weather thruout the state was generally favorable. Light rains were reported in the southwest. Moisture, however, is needed badly in most non-irrigated sections. Colonies thruout the State appear to be for the most part in good condition for winter with ample stores. Weaker colonies, however, are being fed now to strengthen them for winter. Some beekeepers report more old queens being carried over than usual. This is partially due to the difficulties in obtaining package-shipments for next spring's delivery. Preparations for winter are progressing rapidly and some yards have already been packed. The demand for honey is good with a large part of the crop already out of the beekeepers' hands. Some producers are refusing to sell to jobbers and moving their entire crop to local retailers and consumers.

Wyoming. Dry weather prevails throughout this area and moisture is needed badly. Beekeepers report that grasshoppers are a threat to next year's honey plants. Practically all extracting is done and beekeepers are preparing bees for winter. Bees are going into winter in generally good condition. Anticipating difficulty in securing package-bee shipments next spring, some beekeepers are feeding heavily at present to strengthen their colonies even more. Honey is moving briskly and very little is to be had locally.

Montana. Some snow was reported in this area during the period. Beekeepers were expressing some concern that the weather would hinder final preparations of bees for winter quarters. Labor shortages have retarded this operation in some large commercial yards. Most colonies are in fairly good condition and amply supplied for winter. Demand for honey is good with most supplies being sold in small containers.

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Idaho. Rain and snow was rather general over the state during the last days of the period. Temperatures in most sections were well below normal. Honey plants were benefited and at present soil moisture is about normal. The honey season is over in this area and preparations for winter are well under way. Many beemen have completed their packing. Most colonies are in good condition with ample stores. Demand for honey exceeds the available supply with a large volume moving to local retailers and consumers. Only a small part of this season's crop of honey remains in beekeepers' hands.

Utah. Moderate rains were general in this section. In some localities precipitation was reported heavy. Field conditions and soil moisture were much improved and prospects for next year's honey plants are fairly good at this time. Bees for the most part are going into winter quarters in good shape. Many beemen left heavy stocks of honey in the hives and some have stored a considerable number of full sections for next spring's feeding.

Nevada. Freezing temperatures have occurred throughout most sections of the state and light to heavy rains and snow have been reported in the higher elevations. Winter preparations in many yards are completed. Demand for honey is active with a considerable part of the crop being sold locally. Most stocks of honey have moved from beekeepers' hands.

ARIZONA: (Period Oct. 9-Oct. 23)

Temperatures were slightly below normal. Killing frosts occurred in the higher elevations of the north and east. Beneficial rains were reported in other sections of the state. Bees are still active and are gathering small amounts of nectar from a few fall flowers, on the days that weather permits flight. Colonies are generally in good condition but some beekeepers whose yards are located in dry areas have been forced to feed heavily to condition bees for winter. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted: Mesquite-Alfalfa, in carlots 12¢; in case to ton lots 12½¢; single 60s 13½¢; small pails 15¢; Alfalfa, case to ton lots 12¢. Beeswax 41½¢ cash, 43½¢ in trade, per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: Period Oct. 11-Oct. 25)

Northeast Texas. Rains fell in this area during the period. Fall flowers benefited by this additional moisture and bees are filling brood chamber with honey. In some localities considerable honey is also being stored in super. Much of this honey, however, is from broomweed and bitterweed and unfit for market, but at this time a surplus of such honey is an excellent insurance against winter and spring starvation of colonies. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted: Wild Flowers, case to ton lots 12¢.

East Texas. Weather was moderate in this section throughout the period. Bees worked well on late cotton, aster, and other fall blooms. Some surplus was stored from these sources. Most colonies are at present in good condition with ample stores and will go into winter in much better condition than a year ago. Many beemen are leaving considerably more honey on the hives than in past years. Labor shortages are causing serious concern. Some beekeepers are finding it difficult to secure help for finishing extracting operations. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted: Mixed Flowers, Light Amber, in case to ton lots 12¢; in glass jars 19¢.

Southeast Texas. Dry weather continues in this section and plants are badly in need of rain. Goldenrod, aster, and a few other fall flowers were furnishing some nectar. Beekeepers report that in most sections bees will gather enough honey from these sources for winter but that some weaker colonies will have to be fed. Most colonies throughout this section are fairly strong. Queens in some yards have stopped laying. Brood nests are being filled with honey and pollen. Demand for honey is good. No local honey was on the market or being offered for sale. (See page 4 for Southwest Texas report)

Oklahoma. Rains early in October stopped the flow from fall flowers in most sections of the State. The flow was rather short and the honey was of heavy body and dark with a strong flavor. Few beekeepers extracted this but left it on the hives for winter stores. Preparations for winter are getting under way and some beemen have already packed their hives. Demand for honey is good but very little is available.

Arkansas. There was some rainfall in most sections of the state during this period. Condition of honey plants was much improved. Bees from most yards did fairly well on Heartsease but some hives have not built up well. Feeding will be necessary unless there is a further late flow. The crop so far is about

the same as last year and the honey is somewhat lighter in color. Sales f.o.b. shipping point per lb. extracted: in case to ton lots 12¢; single 60s 15¢; glass jars 21¢.

Southwest Texas. Recent rains in this part of Texas proved very beneficial to honey plants. Bees worked well on broomweed, goldenrod, horsemint and in certain section queens wreath. Better than normal stores of nectar and pollen were gathered. Colonies in this section are in generally good condition and will go into winter with greater stores of both honey and pollen and populations of young bees than at any time during the last several years. Prospects for honey plants next year are favorable and some beekeepers are planning to extend their holdings next season. Many package beemen have already booked to capacity their 1944 production of package bees and queens. Demand for honey is good but very little honey is moving. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted: Cotton and Mesquite, single 60s 12¢; in glass jars 22¢.

PLAINS AREA: (Period Oct. 11-Oct. 25)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. Light to moderate rains have fallen over most sections of the Red River Valley. Temperatures have been rather moderate, but occasional freezes occurred. Moisture greatly improved honey plant conditions and beemen report better prospects for next season. Colonies are for the most part in fairly good condition, and most yards show ample stores and plenty of young bees. Occasional yards, however, are reported light in stores and will require supplemental feeding. Packing for winter is well along and many beekeepers have completed these operations. Beekeepers are anticipating considerable difficulty in getting package shipments of bees early enough to get a strong start next season. As a result more particular care is being taken in packing hives this year. Honey demand continues good, with considerable buyer activity. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted: Sweetclover, in carlots 12¢; Sweetclover and Mixed Flowers, in single 60s 15¢; in small pails 19-19½¢; glass jars 23¢. Beeswax per lb. 41½¢ cash, and 43½¢ in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Iowa. Much of western Iowa continues dry and honey plants are suffering from lack of moisture. In the extreme eastern sections rains somewhat relieved the drought condition and next year's prospects for honey plants are much improved. Heavy frosts also occurred in the eastern sections. Colonies are in fairly good condition. The short fall flow in many cases was not enough to furnish winter feed, and additional feeding will be necessary. Some beekeepers have finished their winter packing. Demand for honey is unusually good with most sales direct to consumers and retailers. Beekeepers are having some trouble packaging honey fast enough to satisfy local customer demand. Practically no large lot sales were reported. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted: Clover, in case to ton lots 12-12½¢; in small pails 15¢; in glass jars 21¢. Movement of beeswax has been light, per lb. 41½¢ cash, 43½¢ trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Nebraska. Recent rainfall in most of the east, central, and southeast sections of the State improved honey plant conditions, but other parts of the State remain dry and much in need of rain. In dry areas beekeepers were showing considerable concern about next year's clover crop. Colonies are mostly in fairly good condition, but many yards are short of stores. However, additional feeding should put these colonies in good strength for winter. In some sections foul brood was rather severe this season and as a result many colonies will go into winter with short populations of young bees. Demand for honey continues good with a large part of the crop already sold. Many producers are out of honey at this time. Practically no comb honey is being offered.

Kansas. Good soaking rains were reported in most eastern and some southwestern sections of the State. Moisture is needed badly in other areas. Temperatures below freezing have been reported for some parts of the State. Honey plants in those sections where rain fell are in good condition and beemen are more hopeful for next year's crop prospects. Colonies as a rule are in generally good shape for winter. In many yards winter preparations are well along and some beemen have already finished their packing. Honey is selling almost as fast as it can be bottled. Most sales are made directly to local retail and consumer trade. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted: Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢; Alfalfa per case 12, 5-lb. pails \$11.60; 24, 1-lb. glass jars \$5.75; bulk comb Alfalfa per case 6, 10-lb. pails \$12.19; 12, 5-lb. pails \$12.80; 12, 20-oz. jars \$3.92. Beeswax, per lb. 41½¢ cash, 43½¢ in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

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Missouri. Timely rains fell in most parts of the State except the northwest and extreme southeast sections. Honey plant conditions were much improved. Occasional freezing temperatures were reported during the period. Most bees are in good condition for winter with strong populations and ample stores. Demand for honey is brisk and many producers have already moved their entire crop. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted: Spanish Needle blend, in case lots 12¢; Clover in small pails 18¢.

CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period Oct. 12-Oct. 27)

Michigan. On the northern peninsula fair weather toward the end of this period provided bees with an opportunity for several good flights. The fall honey crop in this section was almost a total failure. Over much of the southern peninsula the fall flows also were very light. Hive packing operation are progressing satisfactorily on the southern peninsula, although labor shortages are hindering some of the larger operators. Bees are in considerably better condition for winter than a year ago and little feeding was necessary. Some late colonies and weak swarms are short of stores. Honey supplies are rapidly diminishing, with a very good demand both from large buyers and from the local retail and consumer trade. Orders for glass jars have decreased indicating that the producers may have a large percentage of their crop packed. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted: Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢.

Wisconsin. Most of this period was clear and cool. In some sections rains provided sufficient moisture to put plants in good condition for winter, while in other sections the ground is still unusually dry. Colonies to be wintered outdoors are now being packed, but very few bees have been placed in cellars as yet. Considerable feeding was necessary as a result of the poor fall flow over most of the State. The demand for honey has been heavy with a large proportion of the crop being sold directly to retailers or consumers. Packers have had considerable difficulty in obtaining any large lots. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. Clover and Mixed Flowers, in case to ton lots mostly around 12¢, with cans furnished, or 11½¢ with cans returned; in single 60s, mostly directly to consumers, mostly 15¢, with some as high as 17¢.

Minnesota. Late September and the month of October were dry over most of Minnesota. Plants apparently have suffered little, however. Fairly heavy rains which fell earlier in the summer provided good early growth. The fall honey flow was very disappointing and consumption of stores during October was quite heavy. Considerable feeding has been done and hive packing is getting actively under way. Colonies are generally in good condition, but some will go into the winter light in stores. Generally speaking beekeepers are farther along with their fall work than at the same time last year. Extracting has been practically completed and a very large proportion of the crop has been sold. Local demand has been very good but only a very few sales were reported, mostly directly to consumers at the ceiling of 15¢ per lb. in single 60s, or around 18-20¢ per lb. in small containers.

Ohio. Over most of northern Ohio the fall flow from asters and goldenrod, especially asters was very good. Practically all colonies in this area have put away good winter stores. Throughout the southern and eastern parts of the State the fall flow was not as good as farther north and some colonies are rather light in stores. Colony populations are generally good in the northern part of the State, but in the southern portion many hives have small clusters, although taken as a whole they are in fairly good condition for winter. While the fall flows were very beneficial in helping bees build up for winter they added little surplus to the total State crop which was light. Extracting is practically completed and hive packing operations are well under way. Honey has moved rapidly. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., White Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 12-15¢, mostly 15¢, in small pails mostly around 20¢; Amber Mixed Flowers in small pails 20¢. Comb Clover only a few sales reported at \$5.00 per case.

Indiana. Cool weather, with some rain over much of Indiana has cut down the fall flow during the latter half of October. Aster yielded fairly well during the early part of the month. While frost in some sections had cut off some of this flow there have as yet been no general killing frosts. In general bees are in good condition for winter, with fairly ample stores. Practically all sales in this section have been directly to consumers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. White Clover, in small pails 19-21¢; Buckwheat in case to ton lots 12¢.

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Illinois. Much of this period was considerably cooler with some rain, although in some areas the ground is still a little dry. In general young honey plants are in good condition. Sweetclover is becoming scarce through this section. Practically none was sown by farmers this year. Bees are in generally good condition, with fair clusters and in most cases ample stores, although it is expected that some colonies may run short before spring and some beekeepers have found it necessary to feed some sugar in preparing their hives for winter. Honey supplies are generally light with a very good demand. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., White Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢; Buckwheat in case to ton lots 12¢; Amber Fall Flowers in small pails 16¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 20¢.

Kentucky. In southwestern Kentucky frosts have ended the small honey flow which was the best in a number of years. In the mountain sections of eastern Kentucky several warm days permitted bees to gather both pollen and nectar from aster and goldenrod. In this section there has been little frost and with some additional warm days considerable winter stores can yet be gathered. Bees are generally in good condition, with good clusters and ample winter stores. The weather in eastern Kentucky continues dry, with little rain for several weeks which will doubtless adversely affect the honey plants for next season.

NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Oct. 13-Oct. 28)

New York. Western New York is still quite dry although rains during the last few days of October have improved plant conditions somewhat. In eastern New York plant conditions are fairly good with ample moisture. Colony conditions are generally good over the State, being especially favorable in eastern and northeastern New York. Winter packing operations are progressing favorably. Some beekeepers have already completed packing, while others have a fairly large proportion of their colonies still to be prepared for winter. Some feeding is being done and as a whole beekeepers have left larger winter supplies than usual. Demand for honey continues very good with a large proportion of the crop in most sections out of the beekeepers hands. The crop in western New York is somewhat below normal, while in the eastern part of the State most beekeepers report better than normal yields. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted: Clover, in carlots 12¢; in case to ton lots mostly 12¢, with occasional sales reported as high as 15¢; in single 60s 14 2/3-15¢; in small pails 16-20¢; in glass jars 20¢; Buckwheat, in case to ton lots 12¢, with occasional sale as high as 13.7-14 1/2¢; in barrels 12-14¢, mostly 12¢; in single 60s 14-15¢; in small pails 16-20¢. Comb: Offerings very light, White Clover, Fancy, only one sale reported at \$6.85 per case; Buckwheat No. 1, \$5.00-6.00, with some Fancy high as \$6.85. Beeswax 41 1/2¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Vermont. Heavy rains during the latter half of October slowed down beeyard work, with the result that many hives are not yet packed for winter. The condition of both bees and clover plants is good. The market is active, and it is expected that most of the honey in Vermont will be cleaned up by the end of the year. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Clover in small pails 17¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢.

Connecticut. Recent rains have improved the condition of honey plants. Bees are in good shape and little or no feeding will be required. American foulbrood has been quite prevalent and many colonies will have to be destroyed this fall. The demand for honey has been active, with the supply rapidly diminishing.

New Jersey. Bees have mostly been prepared for winter. Colonies are in good condition, with an abundance of both stores and young bees. In northern New Jersey there was an excellent fall flow of dark honey. Demand has been heavy. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb, Mixed Flowers, in single 60s 15¢.

Pennsylvania. Moderate to heavy rainfall throughout the latter half of October has restored the soil moisture content to about normal in most sections and greatly improved the condition of honey plants for next season. Fall feeding is about completed and colonies are rapidly being prepared for winter with many beekeepers having already completed their feeding and packing operations. Colonies are in good condition, with a good cluster of young bees and in most cases ample supplies of pollen and nectar. The fall honey flow was rather light, due to the dry summer and early fall and poor honey gathering weather during much of October. Much of the short 1943 crop has already been sold. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Mixed Flowers, in case to ton lots 12¢.

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SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period Oct. 13-Oct. 28)

Maryland. Good soaking rains during the last week in October broke the long summer drought in western Maryland, and improved soil moisture and plant conditions over the entire State. Asters are still blooming, but weather conditions have not permitted bees to work extensively. Feeding for winter is largely finished. Colonies are in generally good condition except in the western part of the State where extreme drought conditions of the summer drastically cut the nectar flow. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. Dark Amber Mixed Flowers in 1-lb. glass jars 20¢. Beeswax, dark country run 40¢ per lb.

West Virginia. All honey flows are over in West Virginia. Bees are being prepared for winter and in general have good stores.

Virginia. In the mountain sections of Virginia rains during the last few days of October have broken the drought. In general fall conditions were unfavorable for honey plants. Bees appear in fairly good condition for wintering, with good populations of young bees. Many colonies, however, are very short of stores and heavy feeding will be necessary. In some cases colonies stored practically nothing during the entire season. Sales f.o.b. shipping point cut comb honey per case of 12-11-oz. jars \$2.50; per case of 24, 4-oz. jars \$1.80.

South Carolina. Mexican clover has become naturalized over much of the lower half of South Carolina, and in places has produced a good late summer flow which has stocked brood chambers well. In the northern sections of the State aster is in full bloom. Many brood chambers are fairly well filled, but little if any honey has been stored in the supers.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Oct. 12-Oct. 27)

Georgia. The weather over south Georgia has been cool and dry. The fall honey flow is over, although on good days bees have obtained a little pasturage from Mexican clover and asters. Light frosts have occurred in a few exposed places, but as yet there have been no killing frosts. In most sections colonies have been placed on their winter stands. Colonies are in favorable condition, with ample winter stores in most sections, although in a few locations some feeding will be necessary. Practically all the honey is now out of the beekeepers hands and no sales were reported.

Florida. Most of this period was unseasonably cool. In south Florida goldenrod is in full bloom, and bees should obtain heavy supplies and winter stores. On the west coast fall flowers yielded very little, while in the northern and eastern sections of the State the fall flow has been fairly good. Practically all colonies stored ample winter stores and some made considerable surplus. In some sections bees filled brood nests with honey and did not work in the supers. This has cut down on brood and the strength of the colonies, which is not a favorable condition for early package producers. Much of the honey has already been marketed. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. Amber Mixed Flowers in 1 and 2-lb. glass jars 16¢.

Alabama. In the northwestern part of the State the honey crop was very light, with the fall crop being almost a failure. In the southern and eastern parts of the State the late fall flow was fairly good and put bees in good condition for winter. In this section most colonies are headed by young queens and have plenty of feed. Some fall feeding has been necessary especially in the dry areas. In the vicinity of Montgomery first frosts occurred on October 17, but were not sufficiently heavy to kill asters and other late fall flowers.

Mississippi. In the vicinity of State College, bees are in good condition for winter with most colonies filled with honey from aster, bitterweed, goldenrod, and other late fall plants.

Louisiana. The goldenrod flow in southern Louisiana was generally good, although it was rather spotted in that some yards produced unusually well while others stored very little. In some sections the goldenrod flow is still in progress, while in others it has ended. Asters and smartweed are also producing well in some sections. Much of this flow was stored in broodnests which resulted in reduced broodrearing. Most colonies have plenty of pollen and honey for winter and spring. Honey stocks are becoming much lighter and most producer-packers will be off the market before the end of the year. Many old combs are being melted and wax production will be higher than usual among many beekeepers. Inquiry for packages and queens for next spring's shipment continues heavy. Some package-producers are already booked to capacity and are

turning away all orders. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted Mixed Flowers, in case to ton lots 12¢.

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TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the last of October. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: No arrivals since last report. Nothing available on the spot market. No sales reported. Supplies very difficult to obtain.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by truck, 2,496 lbs. Ill.; by rail 22,400 lbs. origin not specified.

COMB: Supplies very light. Demand moderate, market firm. Sales to retailers- ILLINOIS, cases White Clover, very few sales in small lots \$7.00.

EXTRACTED: Supplies light. Demand good, market firm. Sales to bakers and other large users - ILLINOIS, White Clover, 5-lb. pails \$10.18 per doz., 1-lb. jars per 2 doz. \$5.75. MEXICO, honey sources unknown in barrels 14¢ per lb. Chicago.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers' paying for country run stock 41½-43½¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

DENVER: Receipts extracted approximately 63,000 lbs., comb 45 cases, wax 1,000 lbs. all Colorado. Demand good, market steady for extracted, market at ceiling; comb demand exceeds supply, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers and direct to large retail outlets - COLORADO, Alfalfa-White Sweetclover, White to Water White, glass jars cases 12, 5-lb. \$10.12-10.18; 12, 2-lb. \$4.70-4.76; 24, 1-lb. \$5.04-5.10; 24, half pound \$2.77-2.80.

COMB: Sales to retailers - COLORADO, Fancy cellophane-wrapped 12-oz. \$6.00-6.50.

BEESWAX: Demand good, market steady. Domestic crude 41½¢ per lb.

MINNEAPOLIS: 200, 60-lb. cans Minn. White Sweetclover arrived.

EXTRACTED: Supplies light. Demand very good, market firm. Sales to wholesale grocers- U. S. No. 1, Blended honey 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.57; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$5.72. Sales to retail grocers- 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.93; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$6.50.

BEESWAX: Supplies very light. Demand very good, market firm. Sales f.o.b. beekeepers - Domestic, crude Light Yellow, cash 41½¢; in trade 43½¢.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: by rail, 66,675 lbs. Calif.; origin not specified 60,400 lbs. and 1 car; by truck, 15,000 lbs. N.Y.; 15,000 lbs. Pa. Supplies light. Demand good, market firm at ceiling, few sales.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers and manufacturers - CALIFORNIA, Light Amber Sage mostly 17¢. IMPORTED, practically all sales made f.o.b. Port of entry at ceiling prices; re-processed 1500 lbs. or less 16½¢; 1500-20,000 lbs. 15½¢; 20,000 lbs. or more 14¢. PENNSYLVANIA and NEW YORK, Buckwheat, f.o.b. country shipping points by dealers 14¢ for cans, 13½¢ for kegs.

BEESWAX: Supplies very light. Demand exceeds supply, market firm at ceiling. Very limited offerings. Sales by receivers Port of entry: SOUTH AMERICA and WEST INDIES, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢, non-sun-bleachable 41½¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Arrivals: by truck 6,252 lbs. origin not known. No offerings. No prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck extracted 4,080 lbs. bottled Midwestern, 6,000 lbs. Origin not specified. No offerings. Brokers unable to obtain supplies.

PORTLAND: Arrivals: by motor truck, from Oregon, Fireweed 120, 60-lb. cans Clover-Vetch, 20, 60-lb. cans; from California, by rail 1 car 60-lb. cans, 1 car cased 12, 5-lb. jars; by truck 150, 60-lb. cans. Supplies very light. Demand exceeds supply. Prices firm and unchanged at ceiling. Sales to retailers and other large buyers- in case lots:

EXTRACTED: OREGON, IDAHO, Sweetclover-Alfalfa and CALIFORNIA Mixed Flowers 12, 5-lb. glass jars \$12.48-12.52; 12, 2¹/₂-lb. glass jars \$6.60-6.81. OREGON and IDAHO, Sweetclover-Alfalfa, 24, 8-oz. glass jars \$3.30; bulk 15-17¢ per lb.

COMB: No supplies.

BEESWAX: Supplies moderate. Market unchanged. Dealers paying 41¹/₂¢ per lb.

ST. LOUIS: Receipts very light. Demand moderate, market steady. Sales by commission merchants to retailers -

EXTRACTED: ILLINOIS and MISSOURI, Mixed Flowers, Light Amber 60-lb. tins few 14¹/₂¢ per lb.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND and ALAMEDA: Receipts: by truck, Central California: 397 cases Light to Extra Light Amber Alfalfa, 117 cases Light Amber Alfalfa-Blue Curls, 281 cases Extra Light Amber to White Blue Curls; 368 cases Light Amber Blue Curls-Cotton-Spikeweed, 127 cases Amber Carrot; 77 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers; 234 cases Amber Mixed Flowers, 1,409 cases Extra Light Amber to White Thistle; Southern California: 545 cases Light to Extra Light Amber Sage-Buckwheat. Beeswax: 4,151 lbs.

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WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
Food Distribution Administration

Telephone - REpublic 4142,
Extension 2176.

Washington, D. C.
November 15, 1943.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - NO. 612

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

SUMMARY

Cold, sub-normal temperatures extended over the country from the Plains Area to the Atlantic Coast. Over the remainder of the country from the eastern slope of the Rockies west to the Pacific Coast temperatures showed above normal. Over the northeastern and north central parts of the country heavy to moderate snows and rains were reported. The soil moisture situation has improved the general outlook in most sections towards next year's prospects for honey plants. In some States particularly in Florida, South Georgia, West Texas and the southwestern Plains Area the drought is severe and rain is needed badly. Plant conditions over most of the areas which have received rains are in generally good condition for next year except in some States where the dry spell of last summer had damaged plants beyond aid. Considerable feeding of colonies is widespread in those apiaries located in unfavorable sections. Some feeding is being done because extracting was too close. In general, however, bees are in much better condition than last season with ample stores and young bees, and winter losses should not be as heavy this year. The southern package beemen are still being besieged with orders for bees for the coming season. The labor situation, however, is causing considerable concern among these producers and only a few orders are being taken subject to the ability of the producer to deliver. The scarcity of help is also causing much concern for next year's operations among the larger beekeepers, many of whom have been delayed in their extracting and winter preparations this year.

Throughout most parts of the country the demand for honey is very active and a large volume of honey is moving locally. Large lot buyers are almost desperate in their attempts to buy honey in any amount without regard to grade or quality. Some reports of offers above ciling prices have been received. Comparatively few large lots of honey are available in any locality. Producers appear to be holding what honey they have yet on hand for their local retail and consumer trade. Reports indicate that little, if any, new crop honey will be available after the first of the year.

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period Oct. 23-Nov. 8)

Southern California. Most days during the period have been clear and rather warm. Nights have been cool, and there has been some morning fogs. Strong desert winds caused some damage to orchards in some localities. Moisture is needed in this section and the lack of rain is causing some concern for the prospects of 1944 honey plants. Recent brush fires destroyed a large acreage of honey plants and timber in the area around Riverside. In the hill areas there is little or no bloom for bees to work and they are practically dormant. In the lower levels bees were rather active and flying almost daily. A little nectar was being gathered from eucalyptus and orchard bloom and pollen from mustard and a few other plants. These colonies have some brood but are storing very little surplus. Bee yards for the most part are in better condition than last year, with fairly good stores and fair population of young bees. However, some beemen who also work in war plants have been unable to give their bees proper care and these colonies are weak. Beekeepers report that only about 50 percent of their colonies at present have young queens. Poison spray in orchards is reported to have affected bees and caused some loss of colonies. Demand for honey is very good and continues to exceed the supply. Offerings were very limited. Sales f.o.b. country points - per case of 120 pounds extracted: Sage-

Buckwheat, Mixed Flowers, Orange, Alfalfa-Mixed Flower, and Blue Curls \$14.40. Beeswax was in good demand, with only a moderate supply available at 41¢ per lb. cash, 43¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. country points.

Imperial Valley. No reports have been received on plant or colony condition covering the period. Sales f.o.b. country points- extracted: Alfalfa \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds.

Central California. Temperatures were generally normal over the central sections, but light frosts were reported in some districts. Small scattered lots of honey still remain to be extracted due to the beekeepers difficulties in securing help for this operation. Receipts to bottlers increased somewhat and the retail demand for honey was off slightly. Bottlers, however, continue to purchase any amounts of honey available at ceiling prices regardless of grade or type. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - per lb. extracted: Alfalfa-Blue Curls, Blue Curls, Clover, Cotton, Orange, Sage, Sage-Buckwheat, Spikeweed, Thistle and Thistle-Blue Curls 12¢. The demand for beeswax is strong at ceiling prices 41¢ per lb. cash f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Northern California. Temperatures in this section were about normal for the period. Frost late in October affected alfalfa and tender vegetable plants somewhat and at present there are few sources of nectar available to bees. Bees have been working occasionally on star thistle and poppy in some localities. Moisture is badly needed in this area and a good rain would greatly improve prospects for next year's honey crop. Colonies are being moved from the higher elevations to the orchard areas and in the foothill areas winter preparations are generally under way. Most colonies are in fairly good condition. In some sections where orchards have been sprayed heavily bees have suffered considerably from arsenic poisoning. Many colonies were either killed off or weakened so badly that there is doubt that they will survive the winter. Demand for honey has eased off slightly as supplies increased in the past few weeks. Most bottlers, however, are still purchasing all available honey at ceiling prices regardless of grade or type. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - per lb. extracted: Clover, Oak, Star Thistle, Thistle, Honeydew, and Mixed Flowers 12¢.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period Oct. 23-Nov. 8)

West of Cascades. Temperatures in this section were rather moderate early in the period, but declined gradually in all districts. Rains have been rather general, with snow falls in the higher levels. Bees have had a few flights during the period but for the most part have been inactive. Most colonies have good winter stores and a fair population of young bees. Some feeding will be necessary, however, in some of the weaker yards. Retail and consumer demand is strong and large lot buyers are bidding ceiling prices for any grade or type of honey in any amount.

East of Cascades. Temperatures east of the Cascades have been cool with below freezing temperatures occurring on several nights. Rain has been falling in some localities and in general weather conditions prevented bees flying. Practically all bees in this region will go into winter in good condition, well supplied with stores. A few of the larger commercial beekeepers are just now finishing their extracting. Difficulty in securing help has made it necessary for some of the large producers to extend extracting operations over a period of time. Some of the smaller beekeepers are having considerable difficulty in getting small containers for packing. The demand for honey is very good and practically all the crop is going to retailers and consumers. Indications are that very little honey will be available either from producers or retailers after the first of the year. Large lot buyers are very active in attempts to buy honey in any amounts not already sold or contracted for. Comb honey is very scarce. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- per lb. extracted: Alfalfa-Clover in single 60s 12-15¢, small pails 19¢. Section comb honey, very few sales, per case \$6.00.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period Oct. 23-Nov. 9)

Dry weather continues over most of Nevada, Utah, West and South Colorado. Rains fell over much of Idaho, Montana and Wyoming and the extreme north of Nevada. Honey plant conditions were improved somewhat in these areas but moisture was needed badly in the remaining areas of the section. Colonies for the most part were in fairly good condition but extensive feeding will be needed in some yards where stores were found shorter than previously reported. Some of the larger apiaries are now finishing their winter preparations, labor

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shortages having delayed this operation. The demand for honey exceeds supply. A large part is moving directly to local retailers and consumers. Large buyers of honey are active, and most producers are holding only a small part of their honey while others have moved their entire 1943 crop. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- per lb. extracted: Alfalfa-Clover, case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s 15¢, a few 14½¢; in small pails 17¢; case per dozen 5 pound pails \$11.60. Beeswax 41½¢ cash, 43½¢ in trade, per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Colorado. Weather during the period has been bright during the day but cold. Moisture is needed badly throughout the State and there is serious concern about the prospects of honey plants for next season. Bees for the most part are in fairly good condition but some beekeepers report that they had overestimated the stores in their yards and a large number of their colonies have been found to be light. Considerable feeding, on quite a heavy scale, will be necessary to bring these colonies thru the winter. Demand for honey continues good, with little honey moving to packers. Most sales are to retailers and consumers.

Wyoming. Temperatures have been reasonable. Rains fell over most of the State and considerable snow was reported in the Northeast. Bees in this section are practically all in winter quarters. Most producers report their bees in fairly good condition, with adequate stores. Some feeding is being done, however. Honey is in good demand and many producers have moved their entire crop.

Montana. Weather throughout the State during the period has been rather cool. Snow was reported in northern sections. Occasional favorable days permitted cleansing flights to bees. Some parts of the State are still rather dry, while in other localities enough rain has fallen to considerably improve next year's honey plants. Practically all winter packing has been done. Some of the larger beekeepers are having serious difficulty in securing help but expect to finish this operation soon. Bees are generally in fairly good condition, with ample stores, but in some cases feeding will be necessary. Demand for honey exceeds supply, and little honey is available locally. Large lot buyers are very active, but apparently are having little success.

Idaho. Temperatures were slightly above normal during the first part of this period. Rains improved honey plant conditions. Freezing weather occurred during the latter days of the period and temperatures ranged considerably lower. Colonies are in generally good condition. Practically all the bees are packed. Those beekeepers who had not finished are packing as rapidly as possible. Labor shortage has delayed these operations in some localities and caused extracting to be delayed. The demand for honey is brisk with a large part of the honey crop in this section out of producers' hands. Many of last year's carlot buyers have been able to buy only occasional small lots this season. Most of the honey is moving locally to the retail and consumer trade.

Utah. Weather has been cold in this area with frequent frosts. Light rains occurred in the north sections early in the period. Most bees have been packed or will be packed for winter in the next few days. Bees generally have plenty of stores, with only an occasional yard being fed. Most beekeepers left more honey on hives than usual for stores. Colonies are practically devoid of brood. Demand for honey exceeds supply. Producers in this area have very little honey on hand and many large commercial beekeepers report that their stocks are low, will be exhausted before next season.

Nevada. Freezing temperatures have occurred in most sections of the State and some snow has been reported in the higher altitudes. Light rains fell in the extreme north. Most bees have been packed for winter and in most cases colonies have gone into winter in good condition.

ARIZONA: (Period Oct. 23-Nov. 9)

No information, since the last report, has been received concerning plant or colony conditions from this State. Sales f.o.b. per lb. extracted: Mesquite-Alfalfa, in case to ton lots 12½¢, in single 60s 13¢; Cotton-Tamarisk, in carlots 12¢. Beeswax 41½¢ cash f.o.b. to beekeepers.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period Oct. 25-Nov. 11)

East Texas. The weather turned cold in the latter part of this period and practically all nectar flow stopped. Scattered late asters are still blooming and on the occasional warm days bees have been working these flowers. Colonies will go into winter in much better conditions than last season, with

good supplies of stores and young bees but a few will have to be fed. Package shippers and large producers of honey are expressing considerable concern about the problem of securing help for next season's operations. Both beekeepers and packers are having considerable difficulty getting containers of any size for packing their honey. The retailer and consumer demand for honey is good. Large lot buyers are very active, and indications are that practically the entire crop will have left beekeepers' hands soon after the first of the year. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- per lb. extracted: Mixed Flowers, in case to ton lots 12¢; Cotton and Mesquite, in single 60s 12¢, small pails 15¢, in glass jars 22¢; 24, 1-lb. glass jars \$5.04 per case.

Northeast Texas. Frequent cold spells have hindered bees and they have been able to work only a few days during the period on late asters. Most colonies in this area have built up a rather good supply of winter stores. Bees as a whole are in good condition for winter except for occasional yards located in unfavorable areas.

Southeast Texas. Rains have been rather general in this section during the period, and prospects for next year's honey plants have been much improved. Bees especially those that have constant care are in excellent condition, with plenty of stores and young bees. In some localities dry weather caused a shortage of pollen and retarded broodrearing, and although such colonies have sufficient stores they are very weak in population. Demand for honey is good and supplies fairly plentiful.

Southwest Texas. Light rain has fallen in some districts but other areas continue dry and rain is needed badly. In the dry areas bees have been inactive but those colonies located near towns have been securing some nectar and pollen from queens wreath and other cultivated flowers. These bees have stored sufficient honey for winter use and are in fairly good condition. Some beekeepers report their bees working on broomweed. Many beemen did not extract any honey at all from the fall flow but left it on the hives for stores.

Arkansas. Fall rains caused bitterweed and Spanish needle to bloom late in this section and bees brought in a considerable amount of winter supplies from this source. Colony strength is good and bees should winter better than last year. Extracting is being finished up in most sections. Demand for honey is good. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - per lb. extracted: Heartsease, Amber, in case to ton lots 10¢, in glass jars 21¢.

PLAINS AREA: (Period Oct. 25-Nov. 11)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. Considerable snow has fallen in the southern area of this section with as high as 18 inches reported. Temperatures have ranged mostly around freezing. Prospects for next year's honey plants are somewhat better but still more soil moisture is needed in some localities. The heavy snows covered hives and drifts prevented and seriously hindered packing, but this operation is being carried on as rapidly as conditions permit. Some bees which are wintered inside have not been placed in cellars as yet. Bees as a whole are in better condition than last season, but feeding will be necessary to bring weaker colonies up to winter strength. Migratory beekeepers have moved most of their colonies south. Honey is moving well locally and many producers have only a small part of their crop unsold. Many have already moved their entire crop at this time. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - Clover extracted, case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 18½¢; 12, 3-lb. glass jars \$6.85 per case.

Iowa. Heavy snows over the western and south central parts of Iowa delayed packing, but beemen are going ahead with this operation as rapidly as possible. Serious labor shortages have also held up packing and some of the larger beekeepers still have a large part of their colonies to pack. Snow combined with rain during this period has considerably increased prospects for next year's honey plants, but there is serious concern about the decreasing clover acreage. Colonies are in fairly good condition but feeding will be necessary in many cases. In some yards beemen are killing off all light and weak colonies and intend to start with package bees next spring. Demand for honey continues strong and supplies rather light. Many producers have moved their entire crop and others are only holding enough honey to supply local customers. Now that extracting is completed beeswax is somewhat more plentiful. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- extracted Clover, in carlots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 16-17½¢; Heartsease, case to ton lots 12¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ cash, 43½¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Nebraska. Snow early in the period and winds of almost blizzard proportions occurred in this section. The additional moisture has much improved honey plant conditions, but in some parts of the State soil moisture is still far below normal. Some beekeepers are rather pessimistic about prospects for next year's honey plants. The snows delayed packing in some of the larger apiaries but most beekeepers had completed this work. Bees are in fairly good condition and most colonies have sufficient stores if the winter is not too severe. Considerable feeding will be necessary in many yards however. Many bees have not yet been placed in collars and their owners are still hoping that they will get a few more days for flight before putting them away. The local demand for honey is very good ^{and} far exceeds supply. Large lot buyers are reported to have offered prices over ceiling levels in their efforts to secure honey. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - extracted, per lb., Sweetclover and Alfalfa, in single 60s 15¢.

Kansas. This period began with rather mild weather but temperatures dropped and cold, cloudy days with below freezing temperatures followed. Very little rain has fallen in the extreme southeast and in the central and western portions of the State. In the northeast, in the Manhattan-Topoka section, soil moisture has much improved honey plant conditions. Bees for the most part are in generally good condition, with adequate young bees and stores. Most winter packing is completed or will be by the last of the month. There is a steady demand for honey and most sales are being made locally to retailers and to consumers.

EAST

CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period Oct. 27-Nov. 12)

Michigan. Considerable rain has fallen throughout the State during the period. Several moderately warm days around the first of the month permitted bees to fly. Honey plants are in good condition in most localities although dry weather earlier in the fall caused some concern. Most beekeepers have finished their hive packing operations, but there is yet considerable amount of this work to be done in the larger yards. For the most part bees will go into winter in good condition but many colonies were rather light in stores. Heavy feeding was necessary to bring these bees to winter strength. Practically no honey is available except in small lots in small containers. Most honey is being held for local trade. Many producers have sold their entire crop. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - extracted, per lb., Clover, in case to ten lots 12¢, in small pails 23¢; 12, 5-lb. pails \$11.61 per case. Beeswax offerings are very light 41¢ cash, 43¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Wisconsin. Temperatures ranged about normal during the first days of the period followed by below freezing weather. Moderate to heavy rains were rather general over the State early in the month followed by light snows in the south and heavy snows in the north. Honey plants conditions were much improved and prospects for 1944 are more encouraging. Bees are in fairly good condition, but heavy feeding was necessary in some cases where extracting was too close the short fall flow failed to aid this situation. Most outdoor colonies have been packed for winter but very few bees which are to be wintered indoors have been placed in collars at this time. The demand for honey is very heavy with very little honey remaining in beekeepers' hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - extracted per lb., Clover, case to ten lots 12¢, in single 60s 14¢-15¢, mostly 15¢, small pails 17-19¢, in glass jars 21¢. Beeswax, 41¢ cash, 43¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Minnesota. Normal weather prevailed for the first few days of this period. On the 7th and 8th of November unusually heavy moist snows fell over most of the State. The additional moisture greatly benefited honey plants and prospects for the 1944 crop were much better. Later in the period weather was cold and windy. Bees not yet packed, were buried under heavy drifts and beemen were of the opinion that they would lose some colonies although not quite so heavily as the loss sustained in the severe blizzard of several years ago. Beekeepers who did not already have their bees packed or in collars are now rushing to get this operation completed. Feeding for winter was rather heavy in some sections. Some beemen, who fed rather lightly stand to lose many colonies if the winter is severe. The demand for honey is very good with practically all producers sold out. Only a little honey is available in retail stores or from processors. It is likely that little honey will remain in producers' hands after the first of the year.

-over-

Ohio. Considerable rain has fallen over most of Ohio with the heaviest being recorded in the northwestern and central sections of the State. Cool weather prevailed during the latter days of the period with below freezing temperatures. The additional moisture put honey plants in fairly good condition and prospects are somewhat better for next season but still more rain is needed. Bees for the most part are in rather good condition for winter, with stores a little heavier than at first believed. Some feeding, however, is necessary for the weaker colonies. Many beekeepers have completed their winter preparations. Demand for honey is good. Most large lots have been moved. Practically all the honey available is in small lots being held for the local consumer trade. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - extracted per lb., Clover in case lots 12¢. Beeswax, 41¢ cash, 43¢ in trade, per lb. f.o.b. to beekeeper. Offerings are light.

Indiana. Weather was rather variable throughout the State. Light rains fell and temperatures were rather high during the first days of the period. Weather became colder, however, and there was some freezing with occasional flurries of snow in eastern Indiana. Honey plants seem to be in very good condition, with good prospects for next season. Colonies are in good condition with good clusters and adequate stores. Most beekeepers left the entire fall flow of honey on the hives. In some cases, however, bees were extracted too closely and feeding will be necessary. Winter preparations are progressing and most yards have already been packed or otherwise prepared for cold weather. Demand for honey has been brisk and moving well in small lots directly to consumers. Very few large lots of honey are available and most producers have moved their entire crop. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted - Buckwheat, in case to ton lots 12¢; Mixed Clover in small pails 21¢.

Illinois. Rain was rather general over the entire State early in the month. Light snows fell in some sections. Temperature dropped sharply later in the period. Honey plants are generally in good condition, but there is some doubt about prospects for clover next season. In most yards bees are going into winter quarters with fairly good stores but some beekeepers have done considerable feeding and will feed heavily next spring. The demand for honey is very active and many beekeepers have disposed of their entire crop locally. Sales f.o.b. extracted per lb. - Clover and Amber Fall Flowers in case to ton lots 12¢, in small pails 16-17¢, in glass jars 20¢; Clover in carlots 12¢.

Kentucky. Rains fell over most of the State, but eastern Kentucky had only light showers and occasional snow flurries. Considerable cold weather occurred late in the period and some snow was also reported in western portions of the State. Beekeepers are somewhat doubtful about next year's prospects for honey plants due to extremely dry weather during the past season. In eastern Kentucky most colonies will go into winter with ample stores. Feeding will be necessary, however, in other sections. Heavy orders have been placed for package bees, queens, and bee supplies for next season. There is a good demand for honey and in some localities honey scarce. A large part of the crop is already out of beekeepers' hands.

NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Oct. 28-Nov. 15)

New York. Temperatures ranged below normal during most of the period with frequent rains and heavy to moderate snows in northern sections of the State. At present prospects for next year's honey plants are good, and the dry weather of last summer does not appear to have caused real damage to them. Colony condition is generally good throughout the State. Most yards have strong populations and good stores. Extracting was done too closely in some cases, however, and feeding will be necessary. Some bees have already been placed in cellars and most bees to be wintered outside have been packed. Labor shortages have caused some delay in this work. The demand for honey has been very good, especially for the small containers. Most large lots have moved from producers' hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point extracted - per lb., Aster-Buckwheat, in case to ton lots 12¢, in 5-lb. pails, in 1-lb. jars 19¢; Clover, in carlots 12¢, in case to ton lots 12-15¢, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 18¢, in glass jars 20¢; Buckwheat in case to ton lots 14¢, in single 60s 15¢; section comb honey very few sales \$5.50-6.00.

Vermont. Weather was mostly cool and cloudy with temperatures somewhat above normal early in the period. Some freezing in the later days. Most bees have been packed for winter and beekeepers are now completing other winter work in bee yards. No reports have been received for this period on plant and colony conditions in this State, but reports for the period Oct. 13 - Oct. 28 indicate that both bees and honey plants are in generally good condition. Sales f.o.b. extracted, per lb. - Clover, in 5-lb. pails 17¢, in glass jars 21¢.

Connecticut. Early days of the period were rather warm with temperatures above normal. Light rains were reported. The last week, however, temperatures were lower and rain was rather general over this State. The good weather early in the month permitted bees several good flights, and bees still have a short flight on occasional warm days, working on wild turnip and witch hazel bloom. Demand for honey is very brisk with only small lots available. No sales were reported.

New Jersey. No reports have been received for the period on bee activity in the State.

Pennsylvania. Early in the period weather was rather warm followed by dropping temperatures in the later days. Snow flurries occurred. Rains were rather general throughout the section. Honey plants have benefited much by the recent rains and are now in good condition for winter. Prospects for next season are very good. Bees are going into winter in good condition with sufficient stores and young bees. Winter preparations have been completed in the smaller apiaries and larger beekeepers report they will finish this work within the next two weeks. The scarcity of labor has caused considerable delay in bee yard work, and a few beekeepers are still trying to finish their extracting. The demand for honey is active and most large lots have been sold. Producers are refusing any new customers in an attempt to keep old accounts supplied. In some localities honey cannot be packed fast enough to meet the demand. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- extracted, per lb. - Mixed Flowers, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 18¢.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period Oct. 28-Nov. 13)

Maryland. Early days of the period were rather mild with abundant rains followed by wet weather and below freezing temperatures. Bees were being fed up until the last few days. Additional feeding in the spring will be necessary. Only small lots of honey are to be found locally and reports indicate that very little honey will be available after the first of the year.

North Carolina. This period began with favorable temperatures and moderate rainfall. Later, however, days were clear and cold with some below freezing temperatures reported. No reports have been received from this State as to plant or colony conditions.

Virginia. In this section weather has been rather normal for this time of year with scattered showers. The additional moisture improved plant conditions. Several frosts in the Tidewater section stopped the late flow from aster. This flow was reported good and bees crowded hives with honey. Most colonies have abundant stores and should carry through the winter well. Bees are in much better condition for cold weather than last season. No sales of honey were reported. Beeswax, 41¢ cash, 43¢ trade, per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Oct. 27-Nov. 12)

Georgia. Good soaking rains fell over most of the State early in the period relieving the drought which has prevailed since last summer. Frosts in some areas were reported to have done some damage to tender vegetable and stopped any further nectar flow for this season. Honey plant conditions were much improved and beekeepers report a rather optimistic outlook for next year's prospects. Most colonies are in good condition and fall feeding will be rather light as a rule. The demand for honey and beeswax is rather good, with a large part of the crop out of producers' hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- Dark Poplar, in 1-lb. jars 18¢.

Florida. Dry weather prevailed over most of Florida throughout the period, with some light frosts and cool nights occurring in the later days. Honey plants are in fair condition but moisture is needed to insure prospects for next season. Bees are working on goldenrod and other fall flowers and some pollen and nectar is being gathered from these sources. Colonies appear to be in excellent shape with good stores and young bees. A few beekeepers report that they intend to extract closely and feed heavily if the winter proves severe.

The fall flow was generally good but both good and poor yields were reported from the same locality. Not all of the fall crop has been extracted. The demand for honey is good and many sales are being made locally. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- extracted, per lb: Amber Mixed Flowers, in 1 and 2-lb. glass jars 16¢. Beeswax 40 $\frac{1}{2}$ -41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, mostly 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Alabama. A good rain early in the period replenished soil moisture and honey plant conditions were much improved. No reports were received from this State concerning the condition and activity of bees. Very little honey is reported available and beeswax supplies are light.

Mississippi. Rainfall was plentiful early in the period and temperatures were favorable for bee activity. Late days of the period, however, were cold with occasional freezing in the north and central districts and frost in the coastal areas. Fall flow from aster and Mexican clover and a few other fall plants was heavy enough for bees to build up well for winter. Honey is selling fast with producers unable to supply all the demand.

Louisiana. Weather was unfavorably cold during the period. Frosts occurred in the coastal areas and freezing temperatures were reported in the central and northern sections. Rains fell early in the period. The additional moisture put honey plants in fairly good condition for next year. Bees are working on occasional warm days on goldenrod and asters. Pollen is being gathered from these sources. Most colonies are in good shape with abundant stores and in some yards bees made enough surplus from the fall flow to make further extracting profitable. The demand for package bees and queens continues heavy, and practically no producer of packages is in a position to accept additional orders. Preparations are under way, however, for next spring's shipments and most material with the exception of cans for shipping cages have already been stocked. The labor situation is quite critical and orders for bees are being accepted dependent on the availability of help. Large lot buyers are active but are getting no offers. Local retail markets are absorbing almost the entire crop. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- extracted per lb., Mixed Flowers in case to ten lots 12¢.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the middle of November. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: No arrivals reported. Nothing available on the spot market. No sales reported. Supplies very difficult to obtain.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by truck 2,733 lbs. 111,840 lbs. Wis.

COIB: Supplies very light. Demand moderate, market slightly stronger. Sales to retailers - ILLINOIS, cases White Clover, few sales in small lots \$7.00-7.25.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand good, market firm. Sales to bakers and other large users - ILLINOIS, White Clover, 5-lb. pails and jars \$11.85 per doz. WISCONSIN, White Clover, 1-lb. jars \$2.93 per doz.

BEEWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ -43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

DENVER: Receipts: extracted, approx. 6,600 lbs. comb; 20 cases; Wax: 500 lbs. all Colo. Demand fair, market steady for extracted; demand exceeds supply, market firm for comb. Demand good, market steady for beeswax. Few sales to retailers-

EXTRACTED: COLORADO, Alfalfa-White Sweetclover, White to Water White, glass jars 24, 8-oz. \$3.39; 24, 16-oz. \$6.15; 24, 23-oz. \$8.09; 12, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. jars \$6.90.

COMB: COLORADO, 12-oz. cellophane-wrapped \$6.75.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, extracted 80, 60-lb. cans Minn. White Mixed Clovers; 120 lbs. beeswax.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand very good, market firm at ceiling. Sales to wholesale grocers - U. S. No. 1 blended honey 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04. Sales to retail grocers - 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75. COIB: No sales reported.

BEEWAX: Supplies very light. Demand very good, market firm. Sales f.o.b. beekeepers- Domestic crude Light Yellow cash 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, in trade 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

NEWYORK: Arrivals: by rail Calif. 131,256 lbs., Ohio 60,000 lbs., origin not specified 168,152 lbs. and 1 car. Supplies limited. Demand good, market firm at ceiling. Few sales in bulk. Most arrivals for bottling purposes.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers and manufacturers - CALIFORNIA, Light Amber Sage mostly 17¢. IMPORTED: Practically all sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling prices, reprocessed 1500 lbs. or less 16½¢, 1500-20,000 lbs. 15½¢; 20,000 lbs. or more 14¢.

BEESWAX: Supplies very light. Demand exceeds supply, market firm at ceiling. Sales by receivers port of entry- SOUTH AMERICA and WEST INDIES, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢; non-sun-bleachable 41½¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Arrivals: by truck by New York, domestic 6,852 lbs. origin not known; 7200 lbs. origin not specified.

HONEY and BEESWAX: No offerings. No prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck, extracted 22,028 lbs. bottled Midwestern, 10,800 lbs. origin not specified. Supplies light.

EXTRACTED: Demand moderate, market firm. Sales by jobbers to retailers- MIDWESTERN, 1-lb. glass jars 21¢. CUBAN, 2-lb. glass jars 30¢.

PORTLAND: Arrivals: by rail, 2 cars Calif. 5-lb. jars Mixed Flowers; by motor truck, Oregon 58, 60-lb. cans Fireweed. Supplies light. Demand active, market steady. Sales to retailers and other large buyers in case lots - OREGON, Fireweed and Mixed Flowers and IDAHO, Sweetclover-Alfalfa 12, 5-lb. jars \$12.48-12.52; 24, 1-lb. jars \$6.23. CALIFORNIA, Mixed Flowers 12, 5-lb. glass jars \$12.52. OREGON, Mixed Flowers, bulk in 60-lb. cans 15-17¢.

COMB: 1 car by express from Idaho containing 884 cases. Supplies moderate. Demand active, market strong. Sales to retailers - IDAHO, cases 24, 12-oz. choice and fancy \$9.92, 10-oz. choice and unclassified \$7.92.

BEESWAX: Supplies moderate. Market steady, with dealers paying 41½¢ per lb.

ST. LOUIS: Receipts light. Demand moderate, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales by commission merchants to retailers - ILLINOIS, Mixed Flowers Light Amber, 1-lb. glass jars 24¢; 2-lb. jars 45¢; 60-lb. tins per lb. 14¢. Sales by brokers to bakers, candy makers and bottlers - CALIFORNIA, Alfalfa, Light Amber in 60-lb. tins 17½¢ per lb.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND and ALAMEDA: Receipts: by truck, from Central Calif. 231 cases Light Amber Alfalfa, Blue Curls and Cotton; 638 cases White to Extra White Blue Curls, 100 cases Extra Light Amber Cotton. 59 cases Extra Light Amber Jackass Clover; 467 cases Light Amber to White Mixed Flowers; 72 cases White Orange; 75 cases Light Amber Spikewood; from Northern Calif. 181 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers; 345 cases White Thistle; 198 cases White to Extra White Thistle-Blue Curls; from Southern Calif. - 429 cases White Sage; 50 cases Light Amber Sage-Buckwheat; beeswax 3,275 lbs.

Released November 20, 1943.

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WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
Food Distribution Administration

Telephone - REpublic 4142,
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Washington 25, D. C.
December 1, 1943.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - NO. 613

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers from country points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

SUMMARY

Temperatures west of the Rockies/and in the north and eastern sections, along the Atlantic Seaboard to Virginia ranged generally above normal. Other parts of the country reported cold, sub-normal weather. Heavy snows occurred in the New England area from Upper New York to Maine where 10 to 16 inches of snow were reported. Precipitation was general throughout the Plains States and Texas and parts of the Northwestern States. The south Atlantic Coastal and Gulf States also reported rains. The over-all picture, however, indicates that soil moisture is generally below normal. Plant conditions are fairly good except in those localities where the drought has been severe. Prospects for next season's honey crop are rather favorable in most of the states but there is considerable concern among beekeepers who depend largely on clover for a crop. The clover acreage has been decreasing for the past several seasons because of the necessity for converting pasture lands into fields for food production. Generally colony condition is good. The fall flow proved to be the most productive for several years and most colonies built up well at this time. There were, however, many beekeepers who, anxious to take advantage of the higher prices and ready market for honey, extracted too closely. As a result heavy feeding has and will be necessary during the winter months. The labor situation is also causing worry and some large beekeepers, especially package producers, have expressed a doubt as to their ability to operate at full capacity unless help is forthcoming. It is quite evident now that the honey production for the country as a whole is lower than previously anticipated. With the present heavy demand there probably will be very little available honey after the first of the year. Many beekeepers who in past years moved their entire crop in large lots retailed their honey in small packages to local consumers and retailers.

CALIFORNIA: (Period Nov. 8-23)

Southern California. Weather conditions in this section were about normal and most days were clear and sunny. Rain is needed badly in many sections to promote the growth of honey plants. Brush fires, in Orange, Riverside and San Diego Counties, have destroyed a considerable acreage of valuable nectar sources, especially sage and buckwheat. Bees in the orchard areas have been flying frequently and gathering enough pollen and honey for a living from eucalyptus and mustard. Colonies located in desert areas are dormant and no sources of nectar are available. Most colonies are in generally good condition and colonies located in the lower altitudes are rearing brood. Honey demand continued good with the available supply light. Sales f.o.b. country points - per case of 120 pounds extracted; Sage-Buckwheat, Orange, and Mixed Flowers \$14.40. A light supply of beeswax was offered. The demand was good at the ceiling prices of 41¢ per lb. cash, 43¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. country points.

Imperial Valley. No reports have been received on plant conditions or bee activity for this period. Sales f.o.b. country points - extracted: Alfalfa \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds.

Central California. Temperatures were generally above normal over this region and only light rains were reported. The lack of rain is causing some concern. Soil moisture is below normal and beekeepers are inclined to be pessimistic about 1944 prospects, especially for sage. Colonies are generally in good condition for winter with good clusters and sufficient stores of pollen and honey. However, the warm weather is causing a more than normal use of stores.

Many beekeepers are moving out of the blue curls districts into almond groves or other spring locations. Lack of labor is causing extreme difficulty among beekeepers and many are still behind in extracting and delivering. The demand for honey is good. Bottlers are very active but offerings are light and mostly in small lots. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - Per lb. extracted: Alfalfa, Bean, Cotton, Blue Curls-Thistle, Thistle, and Mixed Flowers 12¢. Offerings of beeswax have been very light to date and the demand continues strong at the ceiling of 41½¢ cash f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Northern California. Frosts and rains have occurred over this section of the State during this period. Most nectar yielding plants have been killed off but bees are still working on poppys and star thistle. The lack of fall rains has delayed the development of plants but honey plants are mostly in good condition. Prospects for 1944 are much improved. Normal colonies are in good condition with generally good stores and young bees, but many colonies are weak as a result of arsenic poisoning. In Winters, Linden and Ripon districts bees are being moved into the orchard areas. This movement has been delayed somewhat by the irrigating of orchards. There is a continued good demand for honey at ceiling prices, but offerings are very light. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - Per lb. extracted: Blue Curls, Blue Curls-Thistle, Thistle, and Mixed Flowers 12¢.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period Nov. 8-23)

West of Cascades. Temperatures in this section have been slightly above normal and heavy morning fogs were reported. Bees were able to fly only a few hours in the middle of the day. Colonies appear to be wintering well at this time, but beemen report that some colonies are lighter in stores than previously believed and will have to be fed. Some American foulbrood has also been reported. In the areas around Battle Ground, Washington some acreage is being planted in vetch. This should improve prospects for next year's honey crop. Some beekeepers have expressed their intention to increase their colonies next season with package bees. Shortage of labor has handicapped many beekeepers in moving bees to lower altitudes and has also delayed winter preparation in many cases. The demand for honey continues good, with practically all sales made locally in small lots. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- Per lb. extracted in small pails 20¢. Beeswax 41½¢ cash f.o.b. to beekeepers.

East of Cascades. Weather for the most part has been rather cool with occasional rains. Bees have been confined to hives most of the period. Some beekeepers report their scale hives have lost only around 10 pounds since October 1. This would indicate that bees are wintering well. Reports from the Yakima Valley are that there will be little or no increase in the number of colonies next season due to the lack of sufficient pasturage to make additional colonies profitable. Some beekeepers are having great difficulty securing help to complete winter preparations and some are still trying to finish extracting. The demand for honey continues strong and small beekeepers are all sold out. Commercial producers are holding some honey for preferred customers. Sales f.o.b. extracted, per lb. - Alfalfa and Clover, in single 60s, 15¢; 12, 3-lb. glass jars \$7.50 per case.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period Nov. 9-23)

Temperatures throughout the Intermountain area have ranged above normal for most of the period. Scattered rains were reported in western Montana, Idaho and Utah, but moisture was not sufficient to be of any great benefit to honey plants. In some areas concern is being shown over next season's prospects because of the continued dryness and deficient soil moisture. Bees were able to fly on several warm days. Colonies are generally in good condition, but the warm weather has stimulated activity and caused more use of stores than normally. Heavy feeding will probably be necessary in many cases before next season. There is little change in the honey market. The demand is still very good and only a few occasional large lots moving. Most sales are directly to retailers and consumers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- per lb. extracted: Alfalfa-Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢, in small pails 17½ ¢; glass jars 19¢. Offerings of beeswax were very light and no sales were reported. Bulk comb honey 10-lb. pails 17¢, small pails and glass jars 19¢. Details by States follow:

Colorado. Temperatures throughout the period ranged from cool to slightly above normal. Bees were able to take short flights on warm days. Some rain fell in the extreme western sections but the remainder to the state continues dry, and rain is needed badly. In the eastern part of the state burning of weeds along roadsides has been more widespread than usual this fall and beekeepers fear that much of the valuable honey plants will be destroyed or severely damaged. Colonies at this time are in good condition for winter as to strength of population, but many yards are rather light in stores and continued heavy feeding will be necessary. The demand for honey is heavy. Large lot buyers are active but are having little success. Practically all honey is moving in small lots to retailers and consumers.

Wyoming. Weather continued mild throughout the State and most areas are badly in need of rain. In some localities the prospects for next year's honey plants are not good because of extreme dry weather. The mild weather has permitted bees to fly almost daily and colonies are using stores faster than usual. Some very heavy feeding is now being done or will be necessary later. Honey producers are having serious difficulty in placing orders for package bees and queens and many large orders have been returned. Very little honey is moving in this area, with supplies in retailer's hands decreasing rapidly. Large lot buyers are active. Very little beeswax is being offered for sale.

Montana. Throughout this area temperatures ranged above normal during the period. No precipitation or snow has been reported, and in some localities the dry weather is causing some concern as to next year's honey plants. Practically all bees are packed or have been put in collars. Very little honey is moving except to retail stores and to consumers. Large lot buyers are very active but are having little success.

Idaho. Above normal temperatures have prevailed in this area through most of the period. Conditions for next year's honey plants are rather favorable at this time. Most beekeepers have completed their packing for winter and report that bees as a whole are in good condition. In some yards beemen are expressing concern about the dark honey which was left in the hives for winter feeding. Should weather turn extremely cold and confine bees for any length of time, it is felt that this honey will cause some serious and heavy losses of bees. Most honey is out of the producers' hands, and only small lots are moving. There are some reports, however, that a few large lots have moved to the jobbers.

Utah. The mild and above normal temperatures throughout this area have permitted bees to fly a little almost every day. Honey plants are mostly in normal condition for this time of year. Winter packing is practically completed and most colonies are quite heavy. Feeding, however, will be necessary in a few yards. The demand for honey is brisk, but little honey remains in producers' hands. Most producers are holding only enough honey to supply their regular customers.

ARIZONA: (Period Nov. 9-23)

Cool, dry weather with light frost in the south of the State prevailed during the period. Honey plants are much in need of moisture and will be seriously damaged unless rain is received soon. Bees for the most part are in good condition for winter with ample stores and good populations of young bees. Some feeding is now going on in yards having colonies light in stores. Demand for honey is active, and most large lots of honey have already been sold and shipped. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - extracted, per lb.: Mesquite, in single 60s 12¢, few 13½¢, in small pails 18¢, other flavors in single 60s 12½¢. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb. cash f.o.b. to beekeepers.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period Nov. 11-25)

East Texas. Fairly heavy rains fell in this part of the State, and honey plant conditions were much improved. No reports have been received concerning bee activity for this period. Demand for honey is heavy and supplies are moving fast. Reports are that very little honey will remain in beekeepers' hands by the first of the year. Some very dark honey reported to be from Mexico and Cuba is being offered in this area. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - extracted, per lb: Mixed Flowers in glass jars 23¢.

Northeast Texas. No reports have been received indicating the condition of bees or honey plants in this section. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- per lb.: Cotton in single 60s 12½¢.

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Southeast Texas. Substantial rains fell in this section and soil moisture is about normal. Honey plants were benefited considerably and at present are in good condition. Prospects for next year are good. Cold weather prevented bees flying except for a few hours on warm days. Broodrearing has ceased in most colonies. Colonies are in generally good condition with ample stores of honey. There are reports, however, that hives in some yards have only small clusters and little or no pollen. There is some doubt as to whether they will survive the winter if conditions are not favorable.

Southwest Texas. This area of the State has also received beneficial rains and honey plants are in much better condition. Additional moisture is needed, however, to insure a good stand for next season. Bees are going into winter in fairly good condition, but colonies in some yards are rather weak in population.

West Texas. Additional rains will be needed in this section to improve plants and insure a good flow next spring. At present they are in fairly good condition. Bees will go into winter with strong populations of young bees and good stores. Demand for honey is good and a large volume of this year's crop has already left producers' hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - Per lb. extracted: Mixed Flowers, carlots 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, cans returned.

Oklahoma. Rains were reported in the west and central parts of the State. The rest of the area was generally rather cold with very little precipitation. Most bees throughout the State have been packed for winter. Stores are generally light and supplementary feeding will be necessary in many yards. The demand for honey is good. No sales reported.

Arkansas. Temperatures ranged slightly below normal and little rain of importance was reported. Honey plants are beginning to suffer from the lack of soil moisture. No reports have been received concerning colony condition since the last period, but at that time, Oct. 25-Nov. 11, bees were reported to be of good strength for winter. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - per lb. extracted: Heartsease 10¢, glass jars 21¢.

New Mexico. The weather continues dry in this section. Snow which fell around the Mesilla Park region aided soil moisture conditions, but additional precipitation is needed badly to insure honey plant growth for next year. Many colonies in some yards were killed by cotton poison last fall, and those that survived were weakened badly. Most beekeepers have sold almost their entire production and are now engaged in bee yard work, making repairs to hives and equipment, melting up old combs for wax, and finishing other chores.

PLAINS AREA: (Period Nov. 11-25)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. Most of the snow which fell earlier in the month has drifted or melted away. In some localities honey plants for next year are not so encouraging especially the clover acreage, however, in other areas plants are in good condition. Deep drifts in some yards made packing of bees extremely difficult. With the lack of labor to help in winter preparations, beekeepers are helping one another. Colonies appear to be wintering well but bees in most yards in this section have not had a flight since early November, and beekeepers are hoping for a moderation in the weather so that bees may have an opportunity to fly. Many producers have placed heavy orders for queens and packages next spring but difficulty in securing these replacements have caused some beekeepers to plan on raising their own needs in bees and queens. Demand for honey continues very good and only a small part of the crop remains in producers' hands. Comb honey is very scarce. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- Per lb. extracted: Mixed Flowers, in single 60s 13¢, Clover carlots 12¢. Beeswax 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash f.o.b. to beekeeper.

Iowa. Following the rather severe storm of November 7 this section has had fair weather with many warm days. Most of the snow cover has melted. Although soil moisture conditions are now more encouraging, there is still considerable concern as to next year's honey plants. Clover is looking better but the acreage is still very short. Bees have been able to fly on several of the warmer days. Colonies are practically all packed or in the cellars. Generally they are in good condition. Some beekeepers report that they killed off light and weak colonies rather than take the time and risk of getting them through the winter. The demand for honey is brisk. Some producers who are still extracting because of labor shortage, cannot pack fast enough to meet the demand of their customers. The demand for beeswax is moderate, but very little is being offered.

Nebraska. Temperatures have been slightly above normal over most of the State. Dry weather continues and moisture is needed badly to insure a good stand of honey plants for next season. Bees are in good condition and have had several flights on warm days. Reports have been received that some yards are rather light in the number of young bees. Honey movement in this area is not quite so brisk as reported from other sections, but most of the small beekeepers have already moved their entire crop to retailers and consumers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- section comb honey Fancy \$6.00, No. 1, \$5.70 per case.

Kansas. Temperatures early in the period were rather mild but cold weather prevailed in the later days. No rain of any consequence was reported and soil moisture is a little below normal. Honey plants, however, are looking somewhat better and crop prospects are more favorable for next season. Beemen report that Dutch clover is coming back somewhat, but sweetclover is still short because of intensive farming. Bees are in generally good condition with ample stores. Some beekeepers have expressed their plans for increasing their colony holdings for next year. The demand for honey continues steady, with most sales made to local trade.

South Dakota. Temperatures were moderate early in the period but the later days were cloudy with scattered snow flurries. Soil moisture conditions are much improved and honey plant prospects for next season are fairly good at this time. Colonies are reported in generally good condition, with winter packing mostly completed except in the larger yards where labor shortage and severe weather has delayed this work. Sales of honey are brisk at ceiling prices.

Missouri. No reports indicating the condition of honey plants or activities of bees have been received from this section. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- extracted: White Clover, 6, 5-lb. pails \$5.30 per case; 24, 1-lb. glass jars \$5.75 per case.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: Period Nov. (12-27)

Michigan. Temperatures in this State averaged about normal to slightly below during the period. Nothing further has been received since the last report indicating the present conditions of honey plants or the activity of bees. For the period October 27-November 12, however, it was reported that bees were going into winter in good condition but that many colonies were light in stores and heavy feeding was necessary to bring them to winter strength. The demand for honey is good and practically no large lots of honey remain in producers' hands. Practically all sales are to consumer and retail trade. Sales f.o.b. - per lb. extracted; Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢; in small pail, 22¢.

Wisconsin. Normal temperatures prevailed over most of the State this period. One to two inches of snow cover was reported in extreme northern sections. Mild weather the past 10 days permitted bees to have several good flights. Honey plants are in fairly good condition in the central and northern areas but in southern Wisconsin additional moisture is needed. Packing has been completed by most beemen and most bees are going into winter in good condition. Honey has moved fast. Small beekeepers are entirely sold out in most cases and reports are that the larger producers have only around 10 percent of their crop left. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- per lb. ^{Clover} in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 18¢, glass jars 21¢.

Minnesota. The heavy snowfall which occurred early in the month has gradually melted in the southern sections of the State, but the cover is still quite heavy in the northern districts. Soil moisture is about normal and prospects for next year's honey plants are fairly good. Bees have had little chance for flight but appear to be wintering well. Many beekeepers were caught in the midst of their winter preparations and are just now beginning to pack their colonies. Some beemen have experienced difficulty in getting to yards through the snow. The labor shortage has also retarded bee-yard work. Very little honey remains in producers' hands and retail supplies are rapidly decreasing. Only a few occasional large lots have been reported. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- extracted: Clover, Light Amber to White, cans furnished 12¢, cans returned 11½¢, Amber, cans furnished 11½¢, cans returned 11¢. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb. cash f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Ohio. Dry weather continues over most of the State. Light rains were reported over the northeastern and central parts. Temperatures have been slightly below normal. Honey plants are generally in good condition for next season. However, a shortage of clover pasturage is reported in some sections because of the conversion of much pasture lands on farms into fields for cash crops. Bees are generally in good condition and warmer weather late in the period permitted several flights. Winter preparations are in all stages, with some beekeepers having completed their packing and others not yet started. Beemen are expressing some concern over the package bee situation, as package beemen are apparently having some difficulty securing cages and other materials. Only small lots of honey remain in beekeepers' hands, and large lot buyers have apparently given up hope of purchasing honey in any large quantity. Beeswax 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Indiana. Weather conditions during the past 2 weeks continued about the same as the last period, with temperatures normal or slightly above. Bees were able to fly on days around November 18-20. Winter preparations are progressing and most colonies are going into winter in fairly good condition with plenty of stores. No additional information on honey plants has been received since the last report.

Illinois. Weather was unfavorably cold at the beginning of the period, but temperatures were higher during the later days. Reports have been received that most honey plants are in generally good condition, but soil moisture is below normal and rain is needed. Beekeepers are concerned about the increasing shortage of clover acreage. Bees were able to fly on several warm days and colonies now appear to be in good condition. Plentiful winter stores were made from the fall flow but feeding will be necessary in some cases. Winter preparations are mostly completed. Very little honey is being sold in large lots. Most sales are to local trade. Retail stores have very little honey left on their shelves at this time. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- per lb., extracted- Mixed Flowers, in carlots 12¢, in single 60s 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, in 5-lb. pails 15¢; in glass jars 20¢. Purchases, f.o.b. original shipping point- ^{case to ton lots,} Light Amber Fall Flowers 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. delivered Illinois points.

Kentucky. No reported indicating the present condition of honey plants or activity of bees have been received from this section for the past period. Beeswax 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ cash, 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ in trade, per lb., f.o.b. to beekeepers.

NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Nov. 13-23)

New York. Heavy snow fell in Up-State New York early in the period, as much as 15 inches were reported. In other parts of the State temperatures were rather moderate with occasional cool, cloudy days. Soil moisture is about normal and honey plants in most sections are in good condition. Beekeepers seem encouraged about next year's prospects. Colonies are going into winter in generally good condition but some feeding will be necessary. In the Northern sections, bees which are wintered in cellars were caught outside by the heavy snowfall and some hives were snowed under. However, beekeepers are preparing and packing their colonies as rapidly as conditions and the shortage of labor will permit. Most yards in the western and southern parts of the State have been prepared for winter. The demand for honey continues good, with most honey already out of producers' hands. Some beekeepers, however, are holding small lots for regular customers or personal use. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- per lb., extracted: Clover, case to ton lots 12¢, few 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 18-30¢, mostly 18¢, in glass jars 20¢; Buckwheat in single 60s 15¢. Section comb honey Fancy White Clover and Fancy Buckwheat \$6.85 per case.

Vermont. Weather throughout the State continues cold and heavy snows were reported. The snow provided a good coverage for clover without the ground being frozen and this additional moisture will greatly benefit these honey sources. No reports have been received regarding bee activity. The market on honey continues active and the demand is good. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - per lb., extracted: Clover, in small pails 17¢, in glass jars 21¢.

Connecticut. Weather has been variable throughout the State, with warm and cold days and occasional snow reported. Bees have been flying occasionally and gathering a little pollen from a few scattered sources not killed off by frosts. Demand for honey is still strong, with most large producers having only small lots still on hand.

Pennsylvania. Temperatures were rather cool early in the period, but ranged a little above normal during the later days. Bees were able to take several good cleansing flights. Soil moisture is still deficient in most sections but as yet the dry weather has caused no serious damage. Most colonies went into winter quarters in good condition with plenty of stores and young bees. Occasional feeding will be necessary, however, where extracting was done too closely. The demand for honey continues good, with most lots moving locally to retailers and consumers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- extracted, per lb: Clover, Light Amber, in case to carlots 12¢, in case to ton lots 15¢, in single 60s 15¢; in small pails 18¢; Amber, in single 60s 12¢. Section comb honey Light \$6.00, Dark \$5.50-5.80 per case.

New Jersey. Temperatures were slightly above normal throughout this period but several hard freezes occurred. Scattered light showers were reported. Soil moisture is about normal and plant prospects for next year are promising. On warm days bees had several flights and are going into winter in better condition than for several seasons. Most colonies have plenty of stores and strong populations of young bees. Beekeepers have completed their winter preparations in this area. The demand for honey is brisk but practically all sales are to retailers or regular customers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- per lb. extracted: in single 60s 14½¢. Beeswax 42¢ per lb. cash f.o.b. to beekeepers.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period Nov. 13-28)

Maryland. Temperatures have been moderate throughout the State and no rain has been reported. However, the soil moisture content remains about normal from previous rains. Bees have been rather inactive but have been able to fly on several days. Colonies are in fairly good condition at this time, but feeding is being done and will be continued in some cases throughout the winter. Honey is scarce and in good demand.

West Virginia. Temperatures ranged above normal throughout most of the period but several cool days were reported. The ground is rather dry and rain is needed to insure honey plant growth for next season. Bees were abot to fly on several days. Colonies are reported in excellent condition in most yards, with hives well stocked with honey and large winter clusters.

Virginia. Continued dry, cool weather prevailed over the State during the early part of the period, with temperatures slightly lower in the later days. Sub-soil moisture is reported low. No further information on bee activities and conditions have been received since the last report. Demand for honey is good. Only small lots are moving locally. Beeswax 41½¢ in cash, 43½¢ in trade, per lb. f.o.b. beekeeper.

North Carolina. Temperatures during the days ranged mostly around normal but nights were moderately cold. No rains of any importance were reported except in a few scattered areas. Honey plants appear to be in fairly good condition at this time, especially early planted clover. Beekeepers are anticipating an additional late planting of clover which will help next year's prospects. The fall honey flows in this area was above average and most bees are going into winter in better condition than a year ago. Beekeepers are rather concerned about a large volume of imported honey which has moved into the State. Several cases of American foulbrood have been reported, apparently due to this honey being infected. Most honey is out of the beekeepers' hands. Practically all sales were made at ceiling prices in small containers to local consumer and retail trade. Some beeswax still remains in the hands of beekeepers.

South Carolina. Light to moderate rains fell over most of the State. This additional moisture will greatly benefit honey plants, but more rain is needed. Forest fires were reported in some sections. Colonies are entering the winter in good condition with brood chambers well stocked with honey, mostly from aster. Queens have stopped laying in most cases, but a few colonies have a small amount of emerging brood. Some feeding will be necessary in some yards where colonies were weak or extracted too closely. Very little local honey is available but imported honey has been reported in several localities.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Nov. 12-27)

Georgia. Dry weather continues in Georgia and is again becoming severe in the south and east. The fall flow was reported very good and bees are going into winter in good condition, with plenty of stores and young bees. Woods fires occurred in some sections of the State and several apiaries have been reported to have burned. Orders for package bees for next season have been unusually heavy

throughout this section and package beemen are much concerned about shortage of labor and various materials necessary to the package-bee shipper.

Florida. Throughout the period dry, cool weather has prevailed and rain is needed to promote plant growth. Sub-soil moisture is rather low. However, prospects are considered fair for next season. The condition of bees is spotted, with many colonies weak and low in stores, while other beekeepers report their bees in excellent shape with plenty of stores and young bees. Package-bee shippers are booked to capacity and are refusing additional orders. Beginner beekeepers are showing much interest in bees and apiary equipment. Practically all bulk honey has moved out of beekeepers' hands and most sales reported were in small lots locally. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- per lb. extracted: Tupelo in 5-lb. pails 16 2/3¢, other flavors Amber No. 2 grade in 1-lb. jars and small pails 16¢. Bees in favorable localities are still working and gathering some nectar from various fall flowers.

Alabama. Temperatures were generally rather low over most of the State. No rain of importance was reported but honey plants appear to be in fairly good condition at this time. Colonies are reported in generally good condition in most sections, but feeding will be necessary in some cases. Honey has practically all moved from producers' hands and only small lots are available to local retailers and consumers. Very little beeswax is available.

Mississippi. Weather was unfavorably cold throughout most of the period, with freezing temperatures in the north and central districts. Light scattered rains were reported. Colonies as a rule have plenty of winter stores and are in good shape for the winter months. Demand for honey is excellent, but very little is available.

Louisiana. The period was unfavorably cold throughout most of the State, with freezing temperatures in northern and central districts. Frosts occurred nearly to the coast. Light scattered rains were reported. Bees were inactive over most of the period except on a few warm days when they gathered some honeydew. Colonies are going into winter with ample stores and pollen and plenty of young bees. Considerable requeening was done in most apiaries this fall. Package beemen in this State are very much worried about the labor shortage and much concern is felt about their ability to fill the heavy orders next spring. Most stocks of honey have already moved and beekeepers are only keeping supplies for their own use and regular customers.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the last of November. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: 1 car of 1400 cases extracted honey from Ohio arrived. Nothing available on spot market. No local sales reported.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by rail, 1 car Calif.; by truck 10,920 lbs. Colo., 2,568 lbs. Ill., 10,764 lbs. Mich., 1,800 lbs. Wis.

COMB: Supplies very light. Demand moderate, market stronger. Sales to retailers - MICHIGAN, cases White Clover, few sales, mostly \$8.00.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand good, market firm. Sales to bakers and other large users, 60-lb. cans: CALIFORNIA, Alfalfa, Light Amber 14-15¢. COLORADO, Alfalfa Light Amber 14¢. ILLINOIS, 5-lb. pails and jars White Clover \$11.70-12.00, few \$13.00 per doz. MICHIGAN, 2½-lb. jars White Clover \$6.95. ILLINOIS, 1-lb. jars White Clover \$2.90 per doz. COLORADO, 2-lb. tins Alfalfa Light Amber \$4.76 per doz.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 41½-43½¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

DENVER: Receipts: Extracted, none. Demand good but account limited supplies wholesalers voluntarily rationing to customers. Few sales to retailers -

EXTRACTED: COLORADO, Alfalfa-White Sweetclover, White to Water White, glass jars 24, 8-oz. \$3.39; 24, 16-oz. \$6.15; 24, 22-oz. \$8.09; 12, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. jars \$6.90.

COMB: No receipts. No sales reported.

BEESWAX: Receipts: approximately 1500 lbs. Demand good, market steady.

Dealers paying f.o.b. Denver- Domestic crude 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, extracted 112, 60-lb. cans Minn. White Sweetclover;

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand very good, market firm at ceiling.

Sales to wholesale grocers - U. S. No. 1 blended honey 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04.

Sales to retail grocers - 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75.

NEWYORK: Arrivals: by rail, Calif. 61,500 lbs. and 1 car; Mich. 32,300 lbs.; origin not specified 48,971 lbs. and 1 car; by truck, N.Y. 1,000 lbs.; Pa. 1,000 lbs.

Supplies limited. Demand good, market firm at ceiling, few sales in bulk.

Most arrivals domestic used for bottling purposes.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers and manufacturers - MICHIGAN, Mixed Fall Flowers : 14¢. Imported, sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling prices (ceiling prices - 20,000 lbs. or over unprocessed 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; processed 13¢; less than 20,000 lbs. but not less than 1500 lbs. unprocessed 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; processed 14¢ less than 1500 lbs. unprocessed 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; processed 15¢) plus freight.

BEESWAX: Origin not specified 763 bags. Supplies very light. Demand exceeds supply, market firm at ceiling. Sales by receivers port of entry - South America and West Indies, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢, non-sun-bleachable 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Arrivals: by rail, extracted 6,000 lbs. Ohio; by truck domestic origin not known 37,464 lbs.; origin not specified 28,800 lbs. via New York.

HONEY and BEESWAX: No offerings. No prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck, extracted 12,189 lbs. bottled Midwestern; 16,800 lbs. origin not specified. Demand slow, with no offerings. Brokers advise practically impossible to obtain supplies.

ST. LOUIS: No offerings or trading reported. Market nominally unchanged.

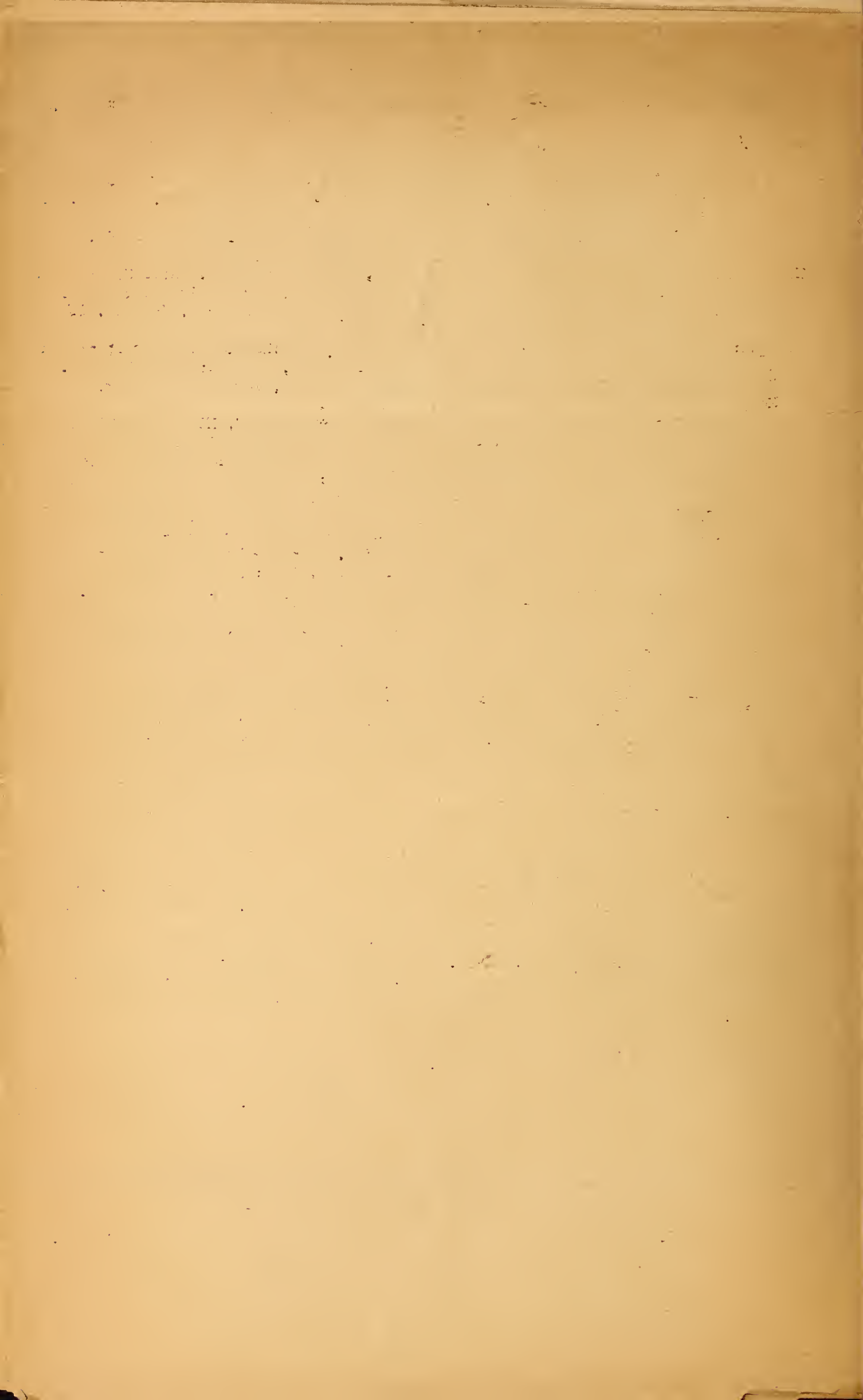
SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND AND ALAMEDA: Receipts: via truck, from Central California- 123 cases Light to Extra Light Amber Alfalfa, Bean, Cotton; 458 cases Extra Light Amber to White Blue Curls; 762 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers; Beeswax 125 lbs. From Northern California - 116 cases Light Amber Blue Curls; 60 cases White Blue Curls, Thistle; 266 cases Amber to Light Amber Mixed Flowers; 294 cases White Thistle.

PORTLAND: Receipts: by motor truck - Extracted, from Oregon Sweetclover-Alfalfa 50, 60-lb. cans; Fireweed 82, 60-lb. cans; from Idaho 1,823 cases 16-oz. glass jars. Supplies very light. Demand active, prices firm at ceiling. Sales to retailers and other large buyers in case lots -

EXTRACTED: Oregon and Idaho, Sweetclover-Alfalfa and Mixed Flowers 12, 5-lb. glass jars \$12.43-12.52; 24, 16-oz. glass jars \$6.21-6.23. Bulk - OREGON, Mixed Flowers 17¢ per lb.

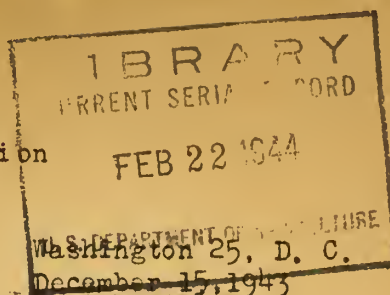
COMB: Supplies very light. Demand good, market strong. Sales to retailers - IDAHO, cases 24s, 12-oz. Choice and Fancy \$9.92.

BEESWAX: Approximately 2 tons arrived. Supplies fairly heavy, but demand good and market strong with dealers paying 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. in cash or 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ in trade.



Reserve

WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
Food Distribution Administration



Telephone- Republic 4142
Extension 2176

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - NO. 614

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

SUMMARY

The December honey and beeswax production report of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics shows that in 1943 4,901,000 colonies of bees produced slightly over 189 million pounds of honey and 3,750,000 pounds of beeswax. This production was low in comparison with recent years, but was above the short 1942 crop of about 178 million pounds. The cold, wet spring, late delivery of package bees, shortage of labor, and delay in obtaining or lack of adequate sugar supplies for winter feeding were major factors accounting for the low yields and consequent low production. The average yield per colony for the country as a whole was reported at 38.6 pounds, which compares with 36.3 pounds in 1942, and a 1939-41 average of 44 pounds. Colony yields were higher than last year in all areas of the country except the west North Central and South Atlantic areas. Total production was also greater than last year in all areas except these two. This report indicates that the number of colonies in November was about 7 percent larger than the number of colonies at the beginning of the main honey flow. Considering the average winter losses which ordinarily will exceed 7 percent, a heavy spring increase in colonies will be necessary if the present number of colonies is to be maintained or increased next year. Total beeswax production was about 12 percent above that of 1942. Producers have responded to the need for more beeswax by deeper capping and by the saving of burr and old comb. Producers reported in early November that they had on hand for sale 17 percent of their entire 1943 production of honey and 52 percent of their beeswax production, compared to 23 and 46 percent respectively at the same period in 1942. Average stores per colony for the 1943-44 feeding season were reported at 41.5 pounds, ranging from 30.5 pounds in the South Atlantic areas to 49.7 pounds in the west North Central area. Indications were that more adequate stores of honey were left on the hives in 1943 than in 1942. Last year the prevailing high price of honey caused many producers to extract too closely, with the result that hive stores ran low with many colonies starving and many others coming through the winter in poor condition. Detailed figures will be found on page 8.

With the exception of portions of the North Central area weather conditions were unseasonably mild in nearly all sections of the country during the early portion of this period. However, around December 10 temperatures over the northern portion of the country dropped to levels which have kept bees confined much of the time. The long open fall in most producing areas was very helpful in the completing of extracting and winter hive packing operations. Practically all colonies have been prepared for winter. In most sections food stores have been adequate, although in some localities some feeding was necessary at the time of packing. In many areas the mild open fall caused unusual activity on the part of bees with the result that consumption of stores has been rather heavy. Demand for honey continues unusually good, but a very large proportion of the crop is out of producers' hands. A number of large packers are turning to the use of imported honey to take care of their needs during the remainder of this season.

While a large proportion of the honey sales have been made at the ceiling prices established by MPR 275 there are indications that considerable quantities have moved above ceiling levels. It should be borne in mind by both buyers and sellers that the provisions of MPR 275 are still in effect and that the purchase or sale of honey at prices above the ceiling levels established in this order

subject both the buyer and seller to the penalties set up in the order.

Possible price increases paid abroad by licensed importers of crude beeswax during 1944, resulting from the War Production Board's removal of purchase price limitations on the product imported from Latin America, will not be accepted as reason for any change in present maximum selling prices in the United States, the Office of Price Administration announced on December 9.

Ceiling prices for imported crude beeswax have been in effect since March 4, 1943, under Maximum Price Regulation No. 264 - Industrial Waxes. The prices are as follows:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Cents per pound</u>
Imported sun-bleachable other than African	44.75
Imported non-sun-bleachable other than African	41.50
African (either sun-bleachable or non-sun-bleachable)	37.50

These prices are high enough to enable importers to absorb possible higher costs resulting from increased bids on their part in buying in the Latin American markets.

Beeswax will be available to licensed United States importers during 1944, from the western hemisphere and Angola, Africa. (From OPA press release December 9.

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period Nov. 23-Dec. 7)

Southern California. Following the driest November in a number of years, light to moderate rains on December 5 and 6 partially broke the drought conditions. Considerable additional rainfall is needed, however, to start the growth of ground flowers and put sage in condition for next spring. Colonies appear in good condition. Bees are dormant in the hill, mountain and desert areas, but in the valleys are obtaining pollen and a little nectar from eucalyptus, early mustard and in the extreme southern portion of the State avocados and off-season orange bloom. A serious brush fire in the Poway and Miramar districts burned over about 5,000 acres of bee pastures, much of which consisted of budding manzanita and a few large groves of eucalyptus which were beginning to bloom. Supplies of honey are becoming lighter, with most deliveries by beekeepers consisting of small lots of Orange, Sage, Sage-Buckwheat and Mixed Flowers at the ceiling of \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds f.o.b. country points. Beeswax supplies were moderate with a good demand taking all offerings at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash, and 43½¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. country points.

Central California. Rainfall was light to moderate over much of this area excepting in the desert regions where rainfall was negligible. In the higher areas light frost and some heavy winds during the latter part of the period caused some damage to colonies mostly from the driving winds. Honey offerings were rather light. Sales f.o.b. country points per lb. extracted Clover, Alfalfa, Orange, Cotton and Mixed Flowers generally at the ceiling of 12¢. Beeswax offerings were very light, with a good demand at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Northern California. Light to moderate rains fell over northern California, but more is needed to overcome the moisture deficiency and put plants in condition for next season. Frosts and cold weather have kept bees confined during many days. In general stores of honey and pollen appear sufficient for winter. While some beekeepers are moving to the almond and prune sections for the early bloom, most of this movement has already been completed. Nothing is available at this time on which bees can work. Demand for honey continues heavy, with only relatively small lots available. Sales f.o.b. country points - Blue Curls, Thistle, Alfalfa, and Mixed Flowers generally at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period Nov. 23-Dec. 7)

West of Cascades. Weather conditions have been favorable, with seasonal heavy rainfall and temperatures in many districts somewhat above normal. Despite the heavy rainfall considerable sunshine prevailed in some areas. Bees appear in good condition both as to colony strength and quantity of stores. A long open fall throughout most sections permitted the planting of a heavier acreage of vetch than last season. The vetch and clover crops are both in good condition. Most of the honey in this section is out of the producers' hands with the exception of quantities which they are holding for local consumer trade. A very large proportion of the honey crop has moved directly to consumers at the 15¢ ceiling, resulting in the inability of packers to obtain as large quantities of honey as could normally be expected. Occasional lots of Clover and Clover-Vetch honey moved to packers at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb., f.o.b. to beekeepers.

East of Cascades. Mild weather with considerable cloudiness prevailed over much of eastern Oregon and Washington. Bees were able to fly only occasionally with the result that consumption of stores has been rather light. Colonies are generally in good condition, with moderate to ample stores. Only an occasional lot of honey is available for sale to the wholesale trade, as much of the crop is moving directly to consumers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. Alfalfa and Clover-Alfalfa in case to ton lots mostly 12¢, with occasional lots being reported above ceiling levels; in single 60s to consumers mostly 15¢, with some as high as 19¢ per lb. Comb-Clover, generally good quality, a few cases \$7.00 per case. Beeswax, 41½¢ per lb. cash, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period Nov. 23-Dec. 8)

The fall months over the Intermountain area were favorable for winter packing operations. Bees have been able to obtain more or less regular flights until early December when in many sections colder weather kept them confined much of the time. In many areas the mild open fall has resulted in a rather heavy consumption of stores. The soil in portions of Wyoming and Colorado is still rather dry, but in most other sections moisture and plant conditions are favorable for this season of the year. Few reports come in of sales of any large wholesale lots of honey. A large proportion of the crop is already out of the producers' hands and much of that remaining is being held to meet the local consumer demand. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted - Alfalfa and Clover-Alfalfa, in carlots 12¢; in case to ton lots mostly around 12¢ per lb., a few higher; in small pails 14-20¢, mostly around 16-18¢. Bulk comb honey in small pails few sales 19¢ per lb. Section comb- Clover No. 1 unwrapped, few sales \$5.00 per case.

Colorado. Rain and snow in the mountains have improved moisture and plant prospects for next year, but additional moisture is needed over much of the plains and valley areas. In general moisture conditions are somewhat better than a year ago. Most bees are in average or better than average condition for this season. In some sections consumption of stores has been a little heavier than might be desired. In the Arkansas and San Luis Valleys considerable concern is expressed over the heavy weevil infestation in alfalfa and sweetclover.

Wyoming. While the winter so far has been open and rather mild most sections of Wyoming are somewhat deficient in moisture and the soil is unusually dry.

Idaho. The early part of this period was unseasonably warm, which permitted frequent flights but resulted in a heavy consumption of stores. The fall was very favorable for packing bees and nearly all yards have been put in good condition for winter with fairly good food supplies.

Utah. The weather during late November and early December was fairly mild. Bees are practically all packed for winter. In Cache, Davis, Utah and Salt Lake Counties a large number of colonies have died during recent weeks apparently as a result of arsenical poisoning. Few large commercial yards in the agricultural portion of northeastern Utah escaped some damage although yards which were distant from crops which were dusted or sprayed seem to be in good condition.

ARIZONA: (Period Nov. 24-Dec. 8)

In the Salt River Valley it has been extremely dry. Light recent rains have had little beneficial effect on plants. Losses from cotton dusting during the past season have again been reported as fairly heavy in both the Salt River Valley and the Yuma districts. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - extracted 12¢; Mesquite in case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s 13 1/4¢; in small pails 16¢. Beeswax, 41 1/2¢ per lb. cash, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period Nov. 25-Dec. 12)

Texas. Rain during this period relieved drought conditions over most of the State and has put plants in good condition. In the southeastern portion of the State moisture and plant conditions are unusually favorable. In the Southwestern plains area considerable additional moisture is needed, however. Colonies over much of the State are in good condition with plentiful stores to carry them through to the early spring blooming season, although in some localities it is expected that a little feeding will be necessary. In some sections an abundance of days on which bees could fly has caused a rather heavy consumption of stores. Package bee and queen producers have mostly booked about all the business they can handle next spring. Only small lots remain in the hands of most beekeepers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb.- Northeast Texas, Sweetclover in small pails and 1-lb. glass jars mostly 19-20¢ per lb.; South Texas Cotton in case to ton lots mostly 12¢ per lb. Beeswax a few small lots 41 1/2¢ cash, and 43 1/2¢ in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

New Mexico. In the Mesilla Valley warm, rainy weather prevailed during much of this period. In the Upper Rio Grande Valley considerable moisture is needed to insure a good growth of honey plants for next season. Bees that were strong in the fall are still in good shape, but some weak colonies will need rather heavy feeding before spring.

Arkansas. Badly needed rain has improved moisture conditions. Some Dark Amber Heartsease honey in case to ton lots moved at 10¢ per lb., with Mixed Flowers in single 60s to consumers at 15¢, and 1-lb. glass jars 21¢ each.

Oklahoma. Weather during this period was mild, with little or no precipitation. Drought conditions over much of the State are still severe. Most bees have been prepared for winter. In general colonies are not in too strong condition.

PLAINS AREA: (Period Nov. 25-Dec. 12)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. Outdoor packing of bees has been completed over most of the Red River Valley and colonies are either on their winter stands or in cellars. Bees have been confined practically the entire time, although it was possible to obtain one or two flights. There is still some moisture deficiency in this area, with very little snow on the ground. Indications are that sweetclover for next year will be rather scarce, although such plants as are available are in good condition. The demand for honey continues good. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb.: Clover, in case lots 12¢; Mixed Flowers in single 60s to consumers mostly 15¢, in small pails 19¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 24¢. Comb-Clover No. 2 wrapped a few small lots at \$4.80 per case.

Iowa. Bees are practically all prepared for winter and are in generally good condition, although possibly 15-25 percent of the colonies in some yards will need feeding. The weather has been moderate during most of this period, permitting considerable flight but resulting in a rather heavy consumption of stores. While considerable snow fell in some sections of the State, for the State as a whole moisture is still deficient. Few large lots of honey remain and a large proportion of the honey held by producers for sale direct to consumers has been moved.

Kansas. November was dry over most of Kansas, but rains early in December have improved moisture conditions somewhat. Bees are reported to be in good condition, with honey plants in average condition. There appears to be an increase of white clover acreage, but some decrease in sweetclover for next year.

Nebraska. Mild weather during much of this period was favorable for wintering bees but frequent flights resulted in a heavy consumption of stores. Some beekeepers expect that rather heavy feeding will be necessary before spring. The soil is still rather dry, although a light snowfall in some sections of the State put a little moisture into the ground.

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Missouri. Weather during most of this period was open, permitting flight almost daily. At the end of the period temperatures dropped well below freezing with a light snowfall in some sections.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period Nov. 27-Dec. 11)

Michigan. Weather over most of the State was mild during this period, but severe winter weather set in on the upper peninsula and the northern tip of the lower peninsula around the 10th of December. Both outdoor and cellar-bees appear to be wintering well. In some yards where honey was extracted too closely some feeding will no doubt be necessary. In fact, some beekeepers fed quite heavily when preparing their bees for winter. Heavy buying of equipment this fall indicates that some expansion is being contemplated for next year. Demand for comb foundation has been active. In most sections of the State the honey crop is pretty well out of the beekeepers' hands and no sales were reported during this period. Some honey buyers are already trying to arrange for the purchase of the 1944 honey crop.

Wisconsin. Cold weather during much of this period has kept bees from flying, although there were a number of days when temperatures were sufficiently high to permit flights. In most sections of the State the ground was bare of snow with the result that clover plants have suffered somewhat. In the southern sections of the State rains during early December were very beneficial to young plants. Honey supplies are becoming much lighter, although some sales were reported during this period, mostly to consumers. Sales f.o.b. per lb., extracted, Clover, in case to ton lots mostly 12¢; in single 60s 14½-15¢, mostly 15¢; in small pails 17-19¢, with a few sales as low as 15¢.

Minnesota. The weather during the early part of this period was somewhat warmer than during early November. Little moisture fell and in most places the ground is bare. Thawing and freezing have caused some injury to young plants. Most packing operations have been completed.

Ohio. Most of November and early December were rather dry, but rains and some snow around December 10 have improved moisture conditions. Clover plants still appear in generally good condition. Prospects are for a fairly good acreage of white and alsike clover for next year, but some decrease in the acreage of sweetclover. Honey is pretty well out of the growers' hands. Reports indicate that most large lots still available are moving around the ceiling of 12¢ per lb., f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Indiana. Most of this period was unseasonably dry, with temperatures running a little above normal. In general colonies appear to be in good condition, with good clusters and plentiful stores. Bees have practically all been prepared for winter. There seems to be a greater inclination on the part of beekeepers to winter their bees in the open and many are wintering them without packing. Honey supplies in producers' hands are being rapidly depleted, with practically everything moving in small lots direct to consumers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Clover, Buckwheat, and Fall Flowers in small pails 19-21¢.

Illinois. Most of this period was mild and open, with sufficient moisture to maintain honey plants in good condition. In the northern part of the State cool weather and rain during a portion of the period kept bees confined, although they have had several good flying days. Colonies now appear in good condition, with plentiful stores. Honey offerings have been light. Sales f.o.b. per lb. - extracted, Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s and bulk to consumers 15¢; Light Amber Fall Flowers, in case to ton lots 12¢; in small pails 17½¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 20¢. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb. cash, f.o.b.

Kentucky. In eastern Kentucky badly needed rains which fell during this period have improved plant conditions for next season. Bees are wintering well so far, with sufficient flights to maintain good condition.

NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Nov. 29-Dec. 13)

New York. Except in the northern and western parts of the State where it was cool during most of this period, the weather over New York was mild until around December 10 when it turned much colder with many points reporting temperatures around zero. Most colonies appear to have gone into winter in fairly good condition, with ample stores, although in some sections considerable fall feeding was resorted to at the time of packing and prospects are that some spring feeding may be necessary. Much of the winter stores left in the hives consists of fall honey. Most of this fall honey is, however, well ripened and

should provide satisfactory feed. Considerable honey moved during this period, mostly in relatively small lots to wholesalers or direct to consumers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - extracted, Clover, in case to ton lots mostly 12¢, with some reported as high as 15¢; in single 60s to consumers mostly 15¢, some to bakers 12-13¢; in small pails 18-20¢, mostly 18-19¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 19-21¢; Buckwheat and Fall Flowers, in single 60s 14-15¢; in small pails 16-17¢. Comb- Clover No. 1, \$6.00-7.00 per case, mostly around \$6.75-6.85; Buckwheat, No. 1, few sales \$6.85 per case.

Vermont. While fairly mild weather prevailed early in this period, temperatures dropped to around zero toward the end of the period. In the northern part of the State there is a good snow cover which will protect honey plants. Both bees and plants appear to be in good condition. Demand for honey continues good, with a large proportion of the crop already sold. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - extracted, Clover, in small pails 17¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢.

Connecticut. Bees appear to be in fairly good condition, although in some yards they have been rather uneasy. Temperatures were high enough to permit flights on a number of days. Demand for honey continues good, with the supplies rapidly diminishing.

New Jersey. Cold weather with some snow in the northern portion of the State struck late in this period. Prior to that time mild weather permitted frequent flights, although in the northern portion of the State rather severe north winds caused some damage in bee yards. Demand for honey continues to exceed the available offerings. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted, Mixed Flowers, in single 60s 15¢.

Pennsylvania. Weather during late November and early December was favorable for frequent flights. Cold weather set in at the close of the period, but most colonies appear to be well prepared for cold weather. Bee yard work has been largely completed and a large proportion of the 1943 crop disposed of. While moisture conditions are favorable at this time there is some question as to the effect to the late summer drought on clover seedlings.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period Nov. 29-Dec. 13)

Maryland. This period was mild, with very little rain, until around December 10 when temperatures showed a marked drop. Bees were able to fly during the early part of the period and temperatures have been very favorable for them to adjust their clusters. No extracted honey sales were reported, but a few small lots of bulk comb honey moved at around 20¢ per lb. Beeswax- few sales 43¢ in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

West Virginia. The weather during the early part of this period was mild enough for bees to fly nearly every day. In the western part of the State ample winter food supplies have been stored and the outlook for wintering is now good. In eastern West Virginia some colonies are a little short of stores.

South Carolina. Broodrearing had about ceased at the beginning of this period, but considerable warm weather may have prolonged it or started fresh egg laying. Temperatures during most of this period have been high enough to permit extended flights. The demand for honey continues good, but very little is available.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Nov. 27-Dec. 11)

Georgia. The weather during this period was unusually mild until December 13 when temperatures dropped considerably. Fall rainfall has been below normal. In many sections the level of streams is low and sub-soil moisture is considerably below normal. Bees are in generally good condition but many colonies are light in stores due to the dry fall which was responsible for a light fall crop. Some package bee producers report that they are already sold out for 1944. Demand for honey has declined some in this section due to the arrival on the market of considerable new crop cane sirup of good quality. However, very little honey is available to meet even this limited demand.

Florida. The weather during this period was mild which permitted considerable flight, and an excellent opportunity for beekeepers to complete all fall extracting and hive operations. The northern part of the State has been unusually dry and considerable moisture will be needed to promote best growth of the honey plants. Demand for honey is still fairly good, although it is considerably lighter than was the case a few months ago. No sales were reported.

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Alabama. Bees are wintering well in spite of abnormally warm weather which has resulted in excessive flights and a heavy consumption of stores. In the northern and central parts of the State it is still unusually dry, while in the southwestern portion of the State moisture has been ample to maintain plants in good condition for next season.

Louisiana. Southern Louisiana has had no weather cold enough to completely stop plant growth. Bees are flying almost daily and in the extreme southern part of the State are gathering some pollen and possibly a little nectar from late asters. Colonies are in good condition and most operators left abundant stores for winter use. Consumption of stores has, however, been fairly heavy due to the unusual activity of bees. Some colonies have a little brood, but most colonies show none. Practically all large lots of honey have been moved at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb., f.o.b. shipping point, regardless of flavor or color. A little late extracting is being done to meet the local demand.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the middle of December. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: No arrivals reported. Nothing available on local market. No sales reported.

CHICAGO: Receipts; by truck, 1,000 lbs. Ill.

COLB: No supplies on market.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand moderate. Sales to bakers and other large users, 60-lb. cans - ILLINOIS, White Clover, per doz., 1-lb. jars \$3.00; 2-lb. jars \$5.70; 5-lb. pails and jars \$11.70-12.00.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 41½-43½¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

DEIVER: Receipts: extracted, 12,000 lbs. Colo., 65,000 lbs. Idaho; comb 60 cases Colo.

EXTRACTED: Demand slow, market steady. Sales to jobbers - COLORADO and IDAHO, Alfalfa, White Sweetclover, White to Water White, glass jars 24, 8-oz. \$3.39; 24, 1-lb. \$6.00-6.15; 12, 2-lb. \$5.65; 12, 2½-lb. \$6.90.

COMB: Sales to retailers - cellophane-wrapped extra fancy, case 24, \$7.00-7.25, Fancy \$6.75-7.00.

BEESWAX: Receipts approx. 3,300 lbs. Demand moderate, market steady. Dealers paying - Domestic Crude 41½¢ per lb.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, extracted 144, 60-lb. cans Minn. White Sweetclover

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand very good, market firm at ceiling.

Sales to wholesale grocers - U. S. No. 1 blended honey 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04.

Sales to retail grocers - 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: by rail, 79,375 lbs. Ohio, Origin not specified 99,087 lbs.; by boat origin not specified 160 bbls., 110 cartons. Supplies light. Demand good, market firm at ceiling. Few sales in bulk. Practically all domestic used for bottling purposes.

EXTRACTED: IMPORTED, sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling prices as follows - 20,000 lbs. or over unprocessed 11½¢; processed 13¢; less than 20,000 lbs. but not less than 1500 lbs. unprocessed 12½¢; processed 14¢; less than 1500 lbs. unprocessed 13½¢; processed 15¢, plus freight.

BEESWAX: Supplies very light. Demand exceeds supply, market firm at ceiling. Sales by receivers port of entry - SOUTH AMERICA and WEST INDIES, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢; non-sun-bleachable 41½¢.

PHILADELPHIA: No arrivals. No offerings. No prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck, 1,320 lbs. bottled Midwestern. Demand fair, but no supplies available. No sales reported.

PORTLAND: Arrivals: by motor truck, from Oregon, Fireweed and Mixed Flowers, 5 tons in 60-lb. cans; Fireweed, 70 cases, 8-oz. glass; 103 cases, 16-oz. glass; 12 cases, 2-lb. glass; from California, by rail, 2 cars Mixed Flowers. Supplies light. Demand good, market firm. Sales to retailers and other large buyers in case lots -

EXTRACTED: OREGON and IDAHO, Sweetclover-Alfalfa and Mixed Flowers 12, 5-lb. glass jars \$12.48-12.52; 24, 16-oz. glass jars \$6.21-6.23; 24, 8-oz. \$3.30; 12, 2-lb. \$5.72. CALIFORNIA, Mixed Flowers 24, 16-oz. glass jars \$6.23. Bulk: OREGON and IDAHO, Mixed Flowers 17¢ per lb.

COMB: No supplies.

BEESWAX: Supplies moderate. Market steady at ceiling. Dealers paying 41½¢ per lb. in cash and 43½¢ in trade.

ST. LOUIS: Offerings very light. Trading limited, market firm.

EXTRACTED: Sales by brokers to bottlers, bakers and candy manufacturers-

MEXICAN, Mixed Flowers, Dark Amber, in 5-lb. tins 13½¢ f.o.b. Louisiana duty paid.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND and ALAMEDA: Receipts: by truck, from Central California- 193 cases Extra Light Amber to White Blue Curls; 65 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers; 400 cases Extra Light Amber Blue Curls, Cotton, Thistle; from Northern California- 234 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers, 185 cases Extra Light Amber Thistle.

HONEY BEES: NUMBER OF COLONIES, AND PRODUCTION OF HONEY AND BEESWAX
(By Bureau of Agricultural Economics)

State and Div.	Colonies of bees		Yield per colony		Production of honey entire season		Beeswax production		On hand for sale November 1943		Honey left for bees	
	1942	1943	1942 - 1943		1942 - 1943		1942 - 1943		Honey	Wax	1943	
	Thousands		Pounds		Thousand pounds						Lbs. per colony	
Me.	6	6	20		120		120	2	3	32	2	56
N. H.	3	3	30	35	90		106	2	2	26	1	34
Vt.	8	8	50	43	400		344	7	7	72	4	39
Mass.	17	17	15	26	255		442	8	13	128	6	48
R. I.	1	1	20	30	20		30	1	1	8	1	51
Conn.	20	18	30	30	600		540	18	12	216	8	47
N.Y.	203	199	50	65	10,150	12,935	141	194	2,471	94		47
N. J.	27	26	14	30	378		780	10	16	266	9	49
Pa.	190	184	20	34	3,800	6,256	74	138	1,526	77		46
N.A.	475	462	33.2	46.6	15,813	21,552	263	386	4,745	292		45.7
Ohio	310	298	23	27	7,130	8,046	145	161	1,110	101		51
Ind.	159	154	25	32	3,975	4,928	94	94	784	63		52
Ill.	225	191	20	23	4,500	4,393	112	119	1,063	59		48
Mich.	176	172	45	48	7,920	8,256	142	165	1,734	101		49
Wis.	183	187	40	57	7,320	10,659	122	171	2,345	102		48
N.C.E.	1,053	1,002	29.3	35.2	30,845	36,282	615	710	7,036	426		49.7
Minn.	240	252	70	61	16,800	15,372	269	277	2,121	175		48
Iowa	200	200	55	47	11,000	9,400	211	207	2,087	126		49
Mo.	160	160	18	14	2,880	2,240	46	58	309	14		36
N.Dak.	24	21	38	65	2,112	1,365	30	18	147	13		48
S.Dak.	17	18	112	35	1,904	1,530	33	24	171	17		38
Nebr.	46	49	120	80	5,520	3,920	108	78	357	35		49
Kans.	40	44	35	38	1,400	1,672	26	28	356	15		50
N. C. W.	727	744	57.2	47.7	41,616	35,499	723	690	5,548	395		45.6
Del.	4	3	10	16	40	48	1	1	5	1		47
Md.	24	24	14	15	336	360	7	9	96	8		37
Va.	123	119	21	16	2,688	1,904	46	48	181	29		28
W.Va.	104	95	13	14	1,352	1,330	19	24	73	14		38
N.C.	183	165	18	20	3,294	3,300	82	73	155	26		33
S.C.	55	52	18	16	990	832	25	21	33	9		31
Ga.	173	173	30	16	5,190	2,763	75	69	174	25		26
Fla.	150	162	55	53	8,250	8,586	140	197	1,992	52		29
S. A.	821	793	27.0	24.1	22,140	19,128	395	442	2,709	163		30.5
Ky.	147	153	12	10	1,764	1,530	25	20	99	10		32
Tenn.	153	155	12	15	1,896	2,325	44	56	151	23		30
Ala.	123	141	13	12	1,664	1,692	46	59	85	20		34
Miss.	56	60	10	12	560	720	17	22	89	9		42
Ark.	75	70	13	12	975	840	24	25	58	12		29
La.	56	62	18	27	1,003	1,674	19	32	157	14		36
Okla.	40	43	25	30	1,000	1,290	20	22	50	12		42
Texas	196	204	27	32	5,292	6,523	92	150	627	52		29
S. C.	356	363	16.5	13.7	14,159	16,599	287	306	1,316	152		32.5
Mont.	37	39	128	96	4,736	3,744	104	90	756	49		52
Idaho	124	135	57	55	7,068	7,425	157	166	1,582	87		48
Wyo.	31	35	93	75	2,833	2,625	58	50	152	25		54
Colo.	66	69	90	90	5,940	6,210	101	106	1,925	74		50
N.Mex.	15	17	45	45	675	765	14	18	180	10		50
Ariz.	75	79	80	63	6,000	4,977	93	80	518	28		35
Utah	47	52	50	38	2,350	1,976	49	51	413	29		44
Nev.	13	14	60	30	780	420	16	8	80	2		44
Wash.	71	67	23	26	1,633	1,742	33	45	442	36		41
Oreg.	54	57	30	33	1,620	1,861	39	43	451	30		42
Calif.	435	448	45	63	19,575	28,224	397	452	3,500	244		35
West.	968	1,012	55.0	59.3	53,260	59,939	1,061	1,129	10,007	614		40.7
U. S.	4,900	4,901	36.3	38.6	177,833	189,049	3,344	3,743	31,361	1,952		41.5

17 Less than 500 pounds.

Released Dec. 20, 1943.

1/ Less than 500 pounds.

Released Dec. 20, 1943.